

Perfin Collecting Is Featured

Money Saving New Service, Identifying Stamp Revealed By Post Office Department

A handsome mail-carrier will grace a new 15c "Certified Delivery" postage stamp which the Post Office Department will make available in the near future along with a new kind of service with the same name. There will be a first day of issue and an opportunity for stamp collectors to get first day covers, but that date is as yet something to be decided by the postal powers. Color of the stamp, and size of the panes in which it will be sold at post offices are details yet to come. The new wrinkle will mean financial savings to users of the mails who rely on registered mail to insure delivery of important papers.

Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield has disclosed details of this proposed change in the registered mail service which would reduce cost to patrons and speed delivery on at least 25 million letters a year now sent by registered mail. He also announced the new service would not become effective until the

Stamp Soon For New Hampshire

While the Post Office Department has not made an official release of news on the matter, it is now definite that a commemorative publicizing New Hampshire will be issued in 1955. The Littleton, N. H. Courier of February 10 had the following page one item:—

"Albert Robertson, assistant postmaster general, Washington, D.C., has confirmed the fact that the State of New Hampshire will soon be honored by its first commemorative postage stamp. This was learned . . . through the Washington office of Senator Norris Cotton, who had urged the White House and the Post Office Department to issue such a stamp.

"The stamp will commemorate the Sesquicentennial Vacation Jubilee scheduled for this year and in all probability will carry a picture of the Old Man of the Mountains, discovered just 150 years ago.

"Apart from the tremendous publicity value for the State and for the Jubilee, New Hampshire residents will be pleased that their state has finally been honored with a stamp of its own for the first time.

"It is expected that meetings will be held shortly . . . at which time the design of the stamp and the time of its issuance will be further discussed."

Stamp dealer inactive for the past few years due to other business has accumulated stamps over \$45,000.00 in cost as far back as 1932 when established, consisting of about 15000 U. S. Plate Number Blocks, 20000 Plain Blocks, mostly the last 15 years, U.S. Mint about \$5000.00 U.S. Used about \$7000.00. Foreign sets \$5000.00, singles Mint and Used British Colonies and Foreign \$12,000.00 collections and accumulations \$5000.00, some of these not even catalogued. Many mounted on approval sheets and in books.

Will sell and help any reputable individual who wishes to buy stamps. Will also include 4 office safes, equipment and customers list at no extra charge. Wonderful opportunity for the right man. Terms \$ desired. In your first letter write full particulars if you are interested, including references.

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Charles Richard Osborn (APS) 108 East Tenth Street San Bernardino, Calif.

Boy Scout Council Sponsors Cachet

The Old Colony Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America, will issue a two-color, cachet in conjunction with their annual Scout Sportsmen's Shows to be held on April 23 at Braintree, Hingham and Norwood, Mass. This cachet will feature their Camp Child Blockhouse.

The price is 15c (no stamps, please) per cover. On orders of three or more covers, they will try to have a cancel from each of the three towns having shows.

Orders should be sent to Russell H. Eliot, 91A Main St., Foxboro, Mass., and should reach him by April 15.

Florida Federation At West Palm Beach

West Palm Beach will be the site of the 1955 Jamboree of the Florida Federation of Stamp Clubs on June 25 and 26. The West Palm Beach County Stamp Club is the host group.

A cachet has been prepared which will be applied to the self-addressed envelopes of collectors. Charge for the service is 10c each, or three different for 25c. Orders and payments are to be sent to Stanley Wood, 308 Cornell Dr., Lake Worth, Fla.

Specialty Has Interesting History; England Had First Use In 1868; U. S. Began 1908

Jo Ro Jung, Jr.

The collecting of PERFORATED INITIAL Stamps has witnessed a phenomenal growth during the past few years. As a result, the thirst for knowledge concerning these stamps as indeed grown proportionally. Hence, in order to quench this parched sensation it is logical that the historical background of these personalized stamps be compiled. In reality Perfins are basically a specialized form of stamp collecting and to maintain adequately any specialty collection it must be admitted that the facts regarding the selected subjects should be known to the fullest extent.

For the past 86 years perforated stamps have been used by various business houses and other similar organizations the world over as a means of protecting postage stamp stocks against theft or unauthorized use. Originally this idea of safeguarding mint stamps was done by means of a printed surcharge on the face of each stamp, but in a short time the postal services found that this method was too easily confused with the cancellation.

It was then decided to print the underside of each stamp before the gum was applied. Each individual order had to be for a very large quantity (to the disgust of the customer), and usually said order had to be filled as it was received thereby interrupting the rhythm of production (to the disgust of the printer). It was also apparent that once such stamps were affixed to the item to be mailed identification became difficult and uncertain.

However this situation was soon remedied, for in 1868 Joseph Sloper, of England, invented a machine for puncturing initials through postal adhesives; needless to say the British Post Office was happy to sanction its use. Incidentally, it is noteworthy that this was only 28 years after the first postage stamp was issued.

Understandably other countries began to realize the value of this protective method, for in 1872 Belgium authorized their use, followed by Germany,

France, Denmark, and Switzerland in 1876. Other governments followed this lead to such an extent that a recent census proves that about 130 countries have at one time or another authorized the application of perforated initials.

Since the inception of Perfins the most prominent users other than our country, has been Great Britain and Colonies, but Denmark, Germany, Switzerland, France, Italy, Japan, Spain, Netherlands, Egypt, and Argentina have produced vast numbers also. It should be pointed out that while some of the countries began issuing perforated identification stamps many years ago there are other more recent ones which can boast of producing larger quantities so far as issues are concerned.

Venezuela, for example, began in 1925—and already has officially sanctioned perforation of more than 100 regular issues along with at least 150 airmails; Japan, which began in 1902, has issued no less than 350 types for business houses alone—and, as can be surmised, many of these Japanese hieroglyphics are quite bewildering.

Reportedly Great Britain has produced more than 7000 different types while the U.S. is estimated well over 6000. British Guiana has issued postal duty stamps which were both overprinted as well as perforated with the word "Specimen" (Scott #103 through #106), but to the small country of Paraguay goes the distinction (Continued on page 10)



STAMPS ON STAMPS FOR CENTENARY. On April 23 Cuba will give a first day of issue to the four regulars and four airmails pictured above which note the 100th anniversary of the first Cuban postage stamps. The regulars are 2c, 4c, 10c and 15c—pictured on them in the same order are Scott Nos. 1 to 4. Airmails are 8c, 12c, 24c and 30c—shown on them are the first issues of the republic under U. S. Military Rule, Scott Nos. 227-8, 230-1. At the time of the exhibition at Havana in November there will be a set of five airmails issued. The Club Filatelico de Cuba supplied the above.

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889-902	.30	889-91	.11
903-06	.15	1002-6	.43
911-15	.14	1007-8	.08
916-20	.20	1009-10	.12
938-41	.26	1011-12	.08
938a-41a	.27	1013-14	.07
942-4	.08	1015-18	.15
945-46	.11	1019-20	.07
947-51	.10	1021-25	.17
952-56	.28	1026-28	.12
952a-6a	.28	1032-38	.22
957-58	.08	1047-48	.07
960a-5a	.16	1050-51	.10
966-67	.07	1052-55	.10
968-69	.15	1067-74	.32
971-73	.32	1087-88	.10
974-79	.27	1089-90	.09
984-86	.09	1098-99	.08
		1121-22	.07

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PERFINS CLUB OFFICIAL FAMILY

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Vice President—Charles V. Metz, 2115 Cummings St., Williamsport 24, Pa.
Secretary-Treasurer—David C. Stump, 310 S. Wayne Ave., Wayne, Pa.
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Contact—Charles A. Regnier, R.F.D. 2, Ashkum, Ill.
Promotion—J. Howard Watters, 2509 Glenwood Ct., New Albany, Ind.
Topical—H. A. Warrell, 600 W. 196th St., New York 34, N. Y.
General Foreign—Victor J. Van Lint, 1008 Washburn Ave., Corona, Calif.

The Perfins Club

The first Perfins were made in 1868. There is very little evidence that they attracted much interest from collectors or philatelists for a long time. However, it is known that some American collectors accumulated them soon after their introduction into this country in 1908 since small collections of Perfins have been found with no stamps issued after 1910.

It is also understood that a small group of enthusiasts in and around Springfield, Mass. took up the study of Perfins and at least one of their number had an elaborate indexing scheme. A part of his apparatus has been preserved by being given to one of our present members and it has been of great help in tracing some of the types that were of early and short life. Evidently their enthusiasm did not spread. In fact, even the knowledge of it did not reach many dealers for the large collection of the pioneer mentioned above was destroyed on the recommendation of a well-recognized dealer who participated in the dispersal of the man's collections upon his decease.

Perfins came to be better known, in part, through the activity of Dr. Louise Larrimore who showed her collection widely. At one time, it was thought that her collection had been lost but it has since been recovered and is now in the hands of a collector who appreciates it.

In the late '30's, an attempt was made to start an organization of Perfin collectors but it lasted for less than a year. The Perfins Club was organized in 1945 and, although interest has appeared to lag at times, this has simply been because one or another of the officers has been too busy with his work to devote attention to the club.

The prime necessity for orderly collecting is a catalog and, back of the catalog, must be a classification scheme governing the cataloging. The scheme used by the club is based on an arrangement proposed by John W. Dow but in a much simplified form.

All letters of the design are read in conventional manner, from left to right and from top row down. These are then indexed in alphabetical order. A group of symbols is employed to designate the letter arrangements: for example, H for one horizontal row, 2 H for two rows and D for a diagonal row in descending echelon. The height of each letter is measured to the nearest half-millimeter. The name of the user is listed, if known.

There have been proposals to report the dates of initial and final usage, so far as they can be determined by reference to the Scott numbers of stamps showing the design, but this has involved too much labor on the part of the cooperating compilers. Also, some have asked for an index of scarcity as a basis for pricing the stamps. For this, reliance must be placed upon individual collections. It has been found that these differ so widely that no satisfactory agreement could be consistently offered.

It is recognized that the cataloging scheme is not wholly adequate. Two letters having the same height may differ as to configuration (especially, the symbol "&"), or they may differ as to number of holes. The arrangement of letters may make it difficult to place the type into one of the established symbol arrangements to the exclusion of other arrangements. Heretofore, reliance has been placed solely upon a type-set or mimeographed text but it is recognized that some illustration is needed. There are no more than 5% of impossible cases and perhaps 10% more of confusing cases so that the amount of illustration required is not large. The matter is being worked on but no conclusions have been reached as yet.

Other solutions have been attempted. The British study circle lists the count of holes in each letter in addition to the other information indicated. For checking purposes in the compilation of a check-list, this is valuable but for the collector using such a list, it puts too much work into an otherwise enjoyable pastime.

It should not be concluded from this long discussion that all we in Perfins do is to compile a catalog. The title of Club has been retained because we are still small enough to promote friendly correspondence. We strive to integrate each new member by means of our Contact Committee. Each new member is assigned to a member of this committee, a collector of more substantial experience in the Perfins field. The beginner is thus given the benefit of help from one who understands his problems. He is not treated as a subscriber to a catalog and information service but as one of a fellowship of friendly collectors. Sometimes we have difficulty finding sponsors for the new members but those who have helped, feel that it is a rewarding experience.

Co-Chairmen of the Contact Committee are: Charles H. Regnier, Route 2, Ashkum, Ill.; and Charles V. Metz, 527 Arch St., Williamsport, Penna.

Membership in the Club is \$1.50 per year and application should be made by letter (no application blank is required) to the Secretary: David C. Stump, 310 S. Wayne St., Wayne, Penna.

Perf Gauge Measures Perfs In Quarters

Consumers Service, 143 Garrett St., Chula Vista, Calif. advise that they have a new type perforation gauge, of English make, which will measure perfs on or off cover. It is made of a clear plastic and will

measure from perf 7 to perf 18.

An advantage is the fact that in the middle ranges it will measure 1/4 perfs—something needed when measuring many of the foreign issues. Also included are an inch and a millimeter scale.

It is pocket size (3 3/4 x 6 inches), and sells for 35c each postpaid.

ROTARY

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Many collectors are eagerly awaiting the Rotary issues scheduled by several different countries. In order "to get in on the ground floor", you'll want the Rotary stamps issued so far: Austria B97-92, Belgium 427-429 plus the scarce souv. sheet, Brazil C66,67 and Cuba 362. Our special price for the entire group is only \$29.75.

Vatican City Errors

Do you know that you can improve your Vatican City collection considerably by adding errors, such as perforation varieties, inverted watermarks, etc. Although quite scarce, some of these items are available at Frank Warner's for as little as 50c per stamp! Ask for a selection today!

Unusual Covers

We are not referring to mass-produced first day covers, but to one-of-a-kind postally used covers of such "tough" countries as Ethiopia, Indian States, Tibet, Transcaucasian Republic, Wrangel Army and so forth. Whatever field you're specializing in, you can always be sure of finding some outstanding covers at Frank Warner's. This is equally true of errors and oddities of all countries.

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84-87 1.95	228-30 .48	56-59 Cat. 8.98
88-114 2.95	231-49 5.98	60-62 6.25
115-29 2.85	263-84 6.85	63-67 3.45
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139-56 1.15	B23-25 .39	90-111 6.39
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DENA
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Iowa Federation Exhibition At Ames

On Sunday May 5, the Fifth Annual Convention and Exhibition of the Federation of Iowa Stamp Clubs will be held in Ames, Iowa. The 78 frame show will be held at the Sheldon Munn Hotel from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There will be a bourse of pen tables.

H. J. Plagge, 519 Lynn, Ames, Iowa is the Federation president. E. P. Lana, 1126 Grand Ave., Ames, is the secretary. Lt. Col. W. T. Hartman, 1408 Kellogg, Ames is the general chairman of the exhibit.

The twelve member clubs of the Iowa Federation are located at Waterloo, Cedar Rapids, Iowa City, Dubuque, Ames, Oelwein, Des Moines (2), Keokuk, Quad Cities (Davenport, Iowa; Rock Island, Moline, and East Moline, Ill.) Council Bluffs, and Perry.

SOJEX Has Cachet Seal, Cancellation

To augment the usual seal and cachet issued each year by SOJEX (March 18-20) the national stamp exhibition sponsored by the Association of South Jersey Stamp Clubs, Inc., the Post Office Department will issue a special cancellation for use during the event. It will be applied to all cachets and other mail originating from the show.

The seal and cachet this year honors Lieutenant Richard Somers, of Somers Point, New Jersey, a naval hero who served with Stephen Decatur in the war against the Barbary pirates, and who lost his life commanding a ship blown up in the harbor of Tripoli.

Cachets can be obtained for ten cents each and seals for five cents plus a stamped, self-addressed envelope from Mrs. Gladys Tester-

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145-63 2.98	535 .. .10	594-95 .. 17
168-71 .. 537	536 .. .14	596 .. .08
172-75 1.05	538 .. .11	B1-2 .. .05
181-99 .. 739	539 .. .04	B11-29 .. 62
250-87 1.10	540 .. .06	B30-40 .. 65
200-18 .. 541	541 .. .07	B50-6 1.59
219-26 .. 542	542 .. .06	B57-65 1.73
227-37 .. 546-51	543 .. .13	B66-70 1.88
238-47 .. 552-54	544 .. .17	B71-76 .. 63
238-48 1.09	555 .. .11	B77-80 1.40
303-24 2.78	556 .. .07	B81-86 2.82
326-39 3.80	557 .. .07	B87-92 8.88
354-71 3.65	558-62 1.05	B93-98 3.80
371 .. 2.40	563 .. .07	B99 1.32
372 .. 1.14	564 .. .07	B100-5 6.40
375 .. .12	565 .. .05	B106-9
376 .. .10	566 .. .05	B110 11.95
377 .. .10	567 .. .07	B110 6.70
378-79 1.85	568 .. .07	B111 10.35
381 .. .10	569 .. .07	B112-7 6.40
382-84 .. 570	570 .. .12	B118-21
385-87 .. 571-77	571 .. 1.39	B122-7 3.45
394-97 .. 578-79	579 .. .12	B128-31
398-04 .. 580	580 .. .12	B128-31
405-31 7.98	581 .. .12	B132-7 1.40
432-54 .. 582	582 .. .10	B137-7 3.80
455-81 and 583	583 .. .10	B138-41
482-8 .. 584-86	584 .. 3.20	
482 .. .05	587 .. .11	B142-5 .. 55
492-93 .. 588	588 .. .11	B146-51
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Gambia: #12, 14, 16, 17, 23, 34, 40, 41, 45, 47, 51, 53, 55, 59, 70, 76, 78, 77, 78, 79, 81, 87, 88, 91, 103, 107, 115, 116, 119, 121, 122		
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Specializing The 3c Stuart Perfin

Orville H. Milburn

Collecting Perfins (stamps with privately perforated designs, initials and monograms) can be a truly wonderful experience replete with pleasure and barrel of fun thrown in for good measure. These interesting bits of paper came into being as a preventative measure against theft and were first officially sanctioned for private use in the United States by the United States Post Office Department in 1908 and have continued on in use ever since.

Perfins collecting has so much to offer to the collector, that it is rather difficult to know just where to start. Certainly, it meets with the specifications of those basic and all important requirements - availability of material, and price consideration - which are so vitally essential to successful collecting, because Perfins are readily procurable in quantity and at prices that are mere peanuts. There are a great many attractive and beautiful designs to be found among them and when it comes to the matter of identifying those private perforations, they seem possessed to an irresistible appeal that will call forth the best efforts of all "whodunit" fans.

Our United States stamps present a remarkably fine range of choice for the collector to make his selection from, and - best of all - they contain something of interest for everyone. Collecting all U. S. Perfins is a most worthy project that has a great appeal to many collectors, because of the number and variety of the stamps involved.

Concentrating upon the collecting of certain groups of issues or stamps has much to recommend it. Some exceptionally fine Perfins collections of the commemorative and other issues have been formed, while Major L. B. Chapman's unique collection of the Fractionals - 1/2c, 1 1/2c and 4 1/2c values - has shown what can be accomplished with a specific group of stamps.

Specializing in the single type of stamp - and particularly with one representing the initial rate of postage on mail matter of the first class - can be not only fascinating but present a stout challenge to the collector. And any of these stamps (just to mention a few) - the 2c Washington 1908-09, the 2c Washington 1922 or the 3c "Stuart" Washington, ordinary issue, series of 1932 - can be counted upon to keep him extremely busy and out of mischief.

No matter what stamp or stamps that he may select on which to center his Perfinic affections, and regardless of how he collects them, sooner or later the collector will be confronted with the realization that there is never a dull moment with Perfins.

While there are a great many reasons why I collect the 3c Washington stamp, ordinary issue, series of 1932 - Scott's U. S. Nos. 720, 721, 722 and the Canal Zone 114; more generally referred to as the "Three Cent Stuart" - let's confine them solely to the ones concerning Perfins.

Just how many different 3c Stuart Perfins there are is not definitely known, but conservative estimates place the number at somewhere between 1000 and 1500 stamps, exclusive of company offices. At first glance these numbers may not appear to be too impossible of achievement, but it is really quite a stunt to accumulate even 600 or 700 different stamps and it might be mentioned that the largest single 3c Stuart Perfins collection known so far to date, contains only about 960 varieties.

To me, this is the ideal set-up, because there are just enough stamps to concentrate upon to make the effort interesting and well worthwhile and to insure more than a reasonable chance of success.

While specializing in a single stamp necessarily limits the field of operations, this to me, is more than offset by its many advantages. The fact that the 3c Stuart was issued in such tremendous quantities - running well up into the billions - assures me of plenty of material available to work with and there is the firm belief in the existence of a vast hidden reservoir of stamps that is only waiting to be unearthed and brought to light.

Then there are so relatively few collectors concentrating solely upon the 3c Stuart that competitive bidding has not entered into the picture and the stamps may still be purchased at prices that are well within the price range of even the collector of most modest means.

Specialization implies a scrup-

ulous attention to details, and there is nothing that gives me greater Perfinic satisfaction than to be able to spot an extra perforation or two on one of my little pets that will result in the birth of a new and unlisted variety. And for the thrill that comes one (or more) in a lifetime, the experience of picking up a handful of Perfins at random, and of being able to identify them offhand, is a sensation that is mighty hard to beat.

Now every collector knows in his mind's eye just why, what, and how he wants to collect, and that is as it should be, but if you definitely do decide to collect Perfins, the following may be of some help. Make up your mind to collect them solely for pleasure and just have fun. Join the Perfins Club and commence to learn the facts of life about Perfins and what makes them tick. Besides, being one of the friendliest organizations in the world, it numbers some of the leading experts among its membership, who are always more than willing and happy to help you in the solution of your Perfin problems.

A catalogue is an absolute necessity to any kind of intelligent collecting and the Perfins Club has for its main objective the publishing of a Perfin Catalogue.

The house organ the "Perfins Bulletin" is published monthly and besides containing a wealth of information generally has one or more pages devoted to the listing of various letters which have been (or are in the process of being) revised and brought up to date.

Remembering the other fellow's specialty is one of the nicest things one can do, and passing along to him any duplicate Perfins, or other stamps of interest one may happen to come across, will not only give him pleasure, but pay big dividends in happiness as well.

Your collection can be whatever you want to make it, and the degree of success that you attain will be the reflection of your own good efforts and how much of yourself you have put

into it. Your greatest collecting pleasures will come from the many friends that you make and the innate satisfaction that you will derive from helping your fellow collectors.

Happy hunting and the very best of good luck.

Los Angeles Display Of Railroad Stamps

Continuing its campaign to promote railroading and railway philately, the Casey Jones Railroad Unit of the American Topical Association is currently sponsoring a showing of selected railroad stamps in the window of the downtown Los Angeles (Calif.) ticket office of the Union Pacific Railroad.

The exhibit, which is entitled "A Trip Around The World On The Philatelic Railroad", features 130 railroad stamps, selected for their beauty and interest from the more than 2000 issued by over 100 countries during the past century.

C. J. Keenan, known as the "Casey Jones" of Railway Philately, and the founder of the organization, is the author of the fascinating exhibition, which took months to prepare.

As executive secretary of the Casey Jones Unit, Mr. Keenan has been the mainspring behind its development, and has been instrumental in creating the Unit's publication, the quarterly "CJRRU News Letter", which is edited by Claude E. Erbsen, of New York City.

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LINN'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS

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CARL P. RUETH, Editor...SIDNEY, OHIO

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Rates for larger space and complete rate card on request.

CLOSING DATE for new copy or change, Wednesday noon, for publication second Monday following.

LEWIS F. TURLEY
Advertising Manager

Hold On To Your Hats

Yes boys, you are going to be taken for a ride. Perhaps we should have said, "Hold on to your pocket books". According to news reports stamp collectors are going to be given the biggest trimming the hobby ever got. Again we can say "Seebeck Was A Piker".



GEORGE W. LINN

than a lot of people who call themselves stamp collectors, spend on stamps in a year's time.

Peter Keller in speaking before the Central Florida Dealers on February 6 stated that he did not believe that the issue could be sold, in fact he said he believed it would be a flop. Judging from further remarks we were led to believe that the Stamp Dealers did not approve of this gigantic series. If so, our hat is off to the boys and we will go along with them. But of course that is because there is no way they can get a cut.

It is clearly evident from advance announcements that this whole set has been designed to take the collector. It has been stated in the advance publicity that \$104,000 is to be spent for advertising and publicity to market the stamps and put over their sale. Newspapers and magazine advertising is to be used, in fact, collectors and the hobby will get the works, the biggest thing that has ever been done will be done and you my friends, are the target. You are going to be expected to pay for this gigantic stamp issue which is hardly fit to be called such. Advance announcements state that the stamps will not be sold through the regular channels of either the Panama Post Office or the Panama Philatelic Agency, but that a new and different agency will be set up especially to sell these stamps.

We have been fighting label issues for some time now, but here is a monster that puts the producers of the labels to shame.

Something should be done by our hobby. We certainly should not take a thing like this lying down.

My first thought would be that the Pope should be asked to disavow this series. A word from him could wreck the whole thing while no word is equal to his approval.

Failing to stop them in this manner collectors should realize that publicity can be as effective in killing a goose as in selling it. Let's ridicule the idea, jingle it out of existence

O Pan-a-maw, Oh Pan-a-maw

How could you ever do it.

O Pan-a-maw, Oh Pan-a-maw

You'll see the day you'll rue it.

Let's have your jingle, send it to me at Howey in the Hills, Florida.

P. O. Department Cooperation

A couple or more weeks ago we referred to an item by James Waldo Fawcett, printed in the Washington Star wherein Mr. Fawcett asked collectors if they would like to have our current stamps issued in imperforate form so they could have perfection copies for their collection. Mr. Fawcett said that the inquiry was in effect from the P. O. D. and that they wanted to cooperate with collectors in any way.

We spoke our piece about the idea and think collectors will agree with us.

Now for a proposal wherein the P. O. Department can cooperate with collectors and in a way that will be of benefit to them. What we collectors want is a fair and honest deal. Not floods of stamps like the Panama issue referred to above, not an additional lot of our own stamps to spend more money to acquire, but a fair and honest shake on the stamps we do buy now.

For years past we have been printing far too many stamps of any of these commemorative issues. However the quantity is not so bad as the way in which they are sold by the Government. Even with 100 million stamps, if they are cleaned up quickly, there would be some chance for their future.

As matters are today, hardly a stamp in the past 20 years has been a fit buy for any collector. The Department speaks well of the several million dollars per year that collectors put into mint sheets, but the collectors fail to realize that in doing this they are just hurting their own collection.

No stamp will increase in value until the source of supply is washed up. If hundreds of collectors are holding mint sheets for the future, these stamps can not appreciate in value till those sheets are about off the market. They keep coming back in dribbles, just enough to keep a supply in the dealers' hands for retail sale so that the stuff will never be of any value for many years to come.

We all watch the annual catalog to see how values are rising and there is no use in trying to fool yourself for that is what you look for in stamp buys.

What we need is to put these commemoratives into a limited issue. Let the P. O. D. announce that the stamp will be on sale at the Philatelic Agency for a period of 30 days after date of release. At the end of 30 days take any surplus and scatter it over the country in many post offices to get it used up to avoid loss or destroy the remainder entirely. If such a plan is adopted it will improve the holding value of each stamp. Look at the CIPEX sheets. Put out in 1947 and still begging for buyers at face value. Lots of them have been unloaded under face. Reason is that these have been on sale either through the Agency or in selected post offices throughout the country for many years. This is unfair to the people who buy big lots of these speculatively prepared items. Let the P. O. D. take some steps to clean up this situation and it will be cooperating with collectors.

SMILEATELICS . . . Bob Ricker



"Here's five hundred stamps — go somewhere and count the perforations!"

Assistance Given By Perfins Club

Study groups or specialized societies are a great advantage in bringing together collectors having common interests. They also certainly are helpful in promoting philatelic knowledge among the members as well as developing new information.

The Perfins Club is adding to philatelic knowledge. Its advanced collectors are compiling a catalog of U. S. Perfins, including the names of using companies in many cases.

In the study of Perfins, the aid of other groups of specialists is helpful and in turn, Perfin knowledge may be useful in verifying doubtful matters.

Since meters have so frequently replaced Perfins, collectors of these two classes of material have much in common. Many covers show joint use of the two, especially in the early '30's when the local rate was 2c and the out-of-town rate was 3c. These covers generally show a 1c Perfin supplementing a 2c meter impression. Many Perfin cover collectors augment their collections with meters of the same using companies.

A number of Perfin users add one or more holes to a basic design for identifying a particular office or factory. Some of these arrangements can become complex with more than a hundred variant types. Here the precancel is a big help to the Perfin student. Although there is little need for protecting precancels against theft, a great many Perfin users perforate precancels as well as ordinary stamps. In doing so, they have greatly aided collectors in identification of local office extra perforations.

Even the ordinary type of postal cancellation—when it hasn't been too ordinary—has been helpful in tracking down some of the older Perfin users. In at least one case, an early type of machine cancel, showing partly on a Perfin, was identified by a cancellation expert as unique to a single city and in this way a lead was obtained that led to a long defunct company that had used Perfins. In this case, a back number of a City Directory was also used. Philatelists all too often are backwards in employing non-philatelic devices for their study.

The Perfins Club, due to the size of the unfinished task, has devoted much of its energy to the cataloging of U. S. Perfins. However it has encouraged the study of foreign Perfins both by its own members and non-members, interested only in the Perfins of their own country. An effort is made to abstract into its Bulletin, literature of all countries as it applies to Perfins. A considerable bibliography has been compiled, reasonably complete in recent years. As older, unabstracted articles come to light, they are added to the collection. It is hoped in this way to bring the bibliography to something like relative completion.

Just as the Perfins Club has benefitted from the help of its sister organizations, it stands ready to give aid of information within its special field. Interested persons are invited to write to the editor, Keith Misegades, 4615 Rosedale Ave., Bethesda 14, Md.

Memorial Day Week End Stamp Exhibition

Don A. Davis, Eugene, Ore., president of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs which comprises western Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, has just announced the dates for the 1955 exhibition and bourse which will be held in Eugene, May 28 to 30. The Eugene Hotel will be convention headquarters.

Committees will be announced shortly and they will include in addition to the very active Eugene Stamp Club, many leaders in the Albany, Salem and Portland, Ore., philatelic groups.

1955 STAMP PROGRAM

500 Locks Centennial, probably at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

ALREADY ISSUED

1064—Art Museum 3c, Philadelphia, Pa., January 15.
1065—Land Grant Colleges 3c, East Lansing, Mich.
1066—Rotary 8c, Chicago, Ill. February 23.

UNITED NATIONS

May 11—UNESCO comm.
Oct. 24—UN Day comm.
Dec. 9—Human Rights comm.

To obtain First Day Covers collectors can send a reasonable quantity, each with a name and address, and enclosing a sticker to the Postmaster of the designated first day city with a request for FD Service. Payment must accompany to cover the face value of the stamps to be affixed. For UN and Canadian first days, watch the news stories on these and follow instructions.

Lincoln Display At Lincoln Museum

A display of materials relating to the new Abraham Lincoln 4c regular has been placed on exhibition at the Lincoln Museum, 511 Tenth St., N.W., as part of the Museum's Lincoln's Birthday observance. The items were loaned by the Division of Philately, Post Office Department. They will be on display for several months.

Included are photographs of subject material considered for the stamp, a facsimile of the model as approved by the Postmaster General, four progressive die proofs showing the development of the stamp and also the finished and complete die proof as approved by the Postmaster General.

The exhibit also shows the respective steps taken in developing a stamp from the original art work to the completed project.

The stamp has for its central subject a likeness of Abraham Lincoln, reproduced from a portrait by Douglas Volk, now in the Mellon Collection, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.

Prepare Cachet For Columbus Exhibition

Stamp collectors from all parts of Ohio and neighboring states will be journeying to Columbus, Ohio to attend the annual exhibition and bourse of the Columbus Philatelic Club on March 5 and 6. This show is being held in the main ballroom of the Southern Hotel, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Saturday and from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Those attending will find 17 dealers from different parts of the United States.

The display will consist of material of the local club members. Collections having won awards in previous shows will not be allowed in the competition.

A cachet has been prepared for the event. The cachet will honor the 100th Anniversary of the use

of the 10c stamp of 1855. This cachet can be obtained for 15c from Rev. Karl Scheffler, 644 Bryden Rd., Columbus, Ohio.

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549 2c Pilgrim 1.10	647 2c Hawaii 1.40	719 6c Olympics .25
550 5c Pilgrim .85	648 5c Hawaii 4.75	724 3c Wm. Penna .15
610 2c Harding perf. 1.10	649 2c Aeronautics .45	725 3c Webster .15
611 2c " imperf. 3.20	650 5c Aeronautics 2.25	727 3c Newburgh .60
614 1c Hug-Walloon .85	654 2c Edison Flat pl. .85	728 1c Chicago perf. .60
615 2c Hug-Walloon .85	655 2c " Rotary .45	729 3c " perf. .15
616 5c Hug-Walloon 8.25	657 2c Sullivan .30	730 1c " imperf. .15
617 1c Lex-Concord 1.10	658 2c Braddock .44	731 3c " imperf. .25
618 2c Lex-Concord 1.60	659 2c Von Steuben .36	734 5c Kosciuszko .25
619 5c Lex-Concord 5.75	660 2c Pulaski .31	736 3c Maryland .25

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307	.06	379	.05	435	.28	515	.09
308	.05	381	.27	462	.05	516	.05
309	.24	406	.01	463	.02	517	.04
310	1.10	406	.01	465	.16	518	.08
311	.01	407	.57	466	.15	525	.04
312	.02	414	.09	498	.01	526	.02
313	.01	415	1.00	499	.01	529	.01
314	.27	416	.02	501	.03	536	.88
315	.08	417	.23	503	.03	538	.42
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BY CARL P. RUETH

That new "Certified Mail" service and stamp described and pictured respectively on page one this edition wont mean much to the ordinary mailer who has few calls to use the registered mail facilities of the Post Office Department. However those who have used registration to make sure the receiver has gotten whatever is sent, and which has no value, will be able to make some notable savings in their postal budgets.

The stamp is a nice looking one—as shown in black and white—but a poor color would ruin it. In my book it has the same basic fault that the Academy of the Fine Arts commemo of January 15 had—there is too much of a dark area. The Academy stamp was over half dark. The Certified Mail item is dark from the postman's waist to the top of the design.

I think he should be sharply outlined and given a halo effect like the statue on the Rough Riders commemo of 1948, or the Statue of Freedom design of 1950.

The Doctors' issue of 1947 was a horrible mess simply because this most appropriate picture was ruined with an uncalled for dark, uncontrasted background. It would seem to me the designer could take a few artistic liberties to make a stamp design sharply beautiful.

1. The Rough Riders commemo showed a picture of whose statue?
2. The Doctors' stamp reproduced what artist's painting?

Next time the United Nations Postal Administration does like it did February 9 with the ICAO commemo, I wish they'd print an explanation on the back of the stamps, or enclose the same with first day covers which are serviced.

Readers have written in large numbers on what seemingly is a miscue on the part of the designer. They want to know, "have they a rarity?" "who slipped?" "why was it done?", and the like.

The set consists of a 3c and an 8c. Honored was the International Civil Aviation Organization—ICAO. The design on both is the same with the exception of the figures of value and the letters which are ICAO on the 3c and OACI on the 8c.

The OACI is the killer—a lot of collectors are quite sure the designer put his bi-focals on backward when he nailed that one together. Such startled stampists seemingly never stop for a minute to consider that the arrangement was approved and seen by a number of persons, and that they being of sound mind, and possessed of reasonable vision would have caught such a boo-boo.

The ICAO of the 3-center is the initial sequence for the name of the body in English. Stamps of the UN are multi-lingual, as all should know, so the opportunity to use another language than English is employed often—the 8c OACI is a good example.

While my interpretation is fairly loose at least as to spelling, I would presume that the letters were the initials of the French way of saying the name, as "Organisation Civil Aeronatique Internationale". So the OCAI is quite legal, in good taste and makes sense.

Clinton Orr of Omaha, Nebraska sent a copy of the new double-ring circle postmark which first went into use at the Omaha post office February 15. It is quite similar to that used before with the exception that this new device is 35mm in diameter and the other 31mm. He didn't have an explanation for the increase in size.

There are new devices in use at Brooklyn, N. Y. and at Toledo, Ohio. They seem to be the roller type. Charles E. Monroe of Mount Vernon, N. Y. called my attention to the former and Alfred Boerger of Toledo the other one.

Between the outer and inner circles are the town name at the top, and the year date at the bottom. In the center, and running at right angles to them is a line with the day, month and time of cancellation. On each side there are five wavy lines widely spaced. Of course, being on a roller they have no ending except between the postmarks which are spaced 65mm apart between circumferences.

Willard Burkhardt, of Grand Rapids, Mich. sent along a nice souvenir of the Land Grant stamp first day. It is one of the descriptive brochures prepared by Michigan State College. He attached one of the new stamps and had it tied with the handstamp first day post-

1954 UNITED STATES STAMPS

Scott No.	Stamp	FD City & Date	Per Printed Face Millions	FDC's	Stamps 1st Day
1029	Columbia U 3c	New York, N. Y. January 4	50	110 550,745	3,638,990
1031	Liberty 1c reg.	Chicago, Ill. August 28	100	272,581	1,511,408
1033	Liberty 2c reg.	San Francisco, Cal. September 15	100	307,300	1,205,000
1034	Liberty 3c reg.	Albany, N. Y. June 24	100	340,001	901,492
1034a	Liberty 3c book	Washington, D. C. June 30		131,839	708,972
1035	Liberty 4c reg.	New York, N. Y. November 19	100	374,064	1,032,850
1036	Liberty 5c reg.	Fredericksburg, Va. December 2	100	255,650	568,888
1039	Liberty 8c reg.	Washington, D. C. April 9	100	340,077	900,000
1049	Liberty 1c coil	Baltimore, Md. October 8		196,318	603,681
1050	Liberty 2c coil	St. Louis, Mo. October 22		162,050	402,000
1051	Liberty 3c coil	Washington, D. C. July 20		137,139	249,776
1060	Nebraska 3c	Nebraska City, Neb. May 7	50	110 401,015	706,050
1061	Kansas 3c	Ft. Leavenworth, Kan. May 31	50	110 349,145	649,937
1062	Eastman 3c	Rochester, N. Y. July 12	70	119 630,448	2,590,501
1063	Lewis-Clark 3c	Sioux City, Iowa July 28	50	110 371,557	789,935
832c	Presidential \$1	Washington, D. C. August 31	100	20,202	25,856
C48	Airmail 4c	Philadelphia, Pa. September 3	100	295,720	893,868
E20	Spec. Del. 20c	Boston, Mass. October 13	50	140,869	194,043

NOTE: Gaps between the catalog numbers are left to be assigned to denominations in sequence as they are issued. Where the "Printing Quantity" is vacant such figures will not be known until these stamps are replaced in a matter of years.

marker.

Alfred G. Boerger of Toledo sent one of the official programs bearing the new stamp and the postmark. He was of the opinion that not too many made the one mile trek in zero temperatures and piles of snow to the East Lansing post office to have the programs so handled. He said it was quite miserable weather but that seemingly didn't stop a large crowd from turning out and enjoying the impressive ceremonies.

Herman Herst, Jr. of Shrub Oak, N. Y. writes, "I was glad to see your little squib about the 4c airmail (February 14 U. S. Notes). I don't think though that you went far enough. Collectors should know the facts on this stamp. No stamp under the 5c denomination has ever sold at the discount that this is bringing on Nassau St. Almost daily I am offered substantial quantities for 10% below face.

"The postage brokers wont touch it because it is such a little used rate. The stamp dealers wont because they are loaded. Dealers are paying as much as 50c for plate blocks of this stamp, a price that of course seems high but when you realize the substantial loss they take on selling 96 stamps at a considerable discount, it doesn't seem quite so much. If the stamp were to receive greater use as you suggest, it would serve to bring the price down to the reach of all."

James E. Minor of Jackson, Mich. went right to the top with his request for information about the number of stamps which had been printed from Eastman Plate No. 25010.

He received a letter from Asst. PMG Albert J. Robertson which stated, "A total of 13,502,440 stamps have been printed to date from plate No. 25010."

Dividing that by 280 subjects per plate gives the number of impressions as 48,223. That isn't exactly plentiful, but some thousands more than originally forecast.

V. L. Ruckle of Loveland, Colo. advises that the post office there handled pretty close to 50,000 pieces of mail for Valentines Day, February 14.

Most of them received a cachet which pictures a cupid in chaps and a ten-gallon hat shooting an arrow at a heart with the Rockies in the background. Accompanying is a verse which reads:

From Romantic Loveland
The Kid With The Dart
Sends Valentine Greetings
To All Young At Heart

1. Capt. William O. O'Neill.
2. Sir Luke Fildes.

Henry Rubisiak President At Buffalo

Members of the Collectors Club of Buffalo just recently voted for new officers. President for 1955 is Henry Rubisiak; vice president Homer Hendee; treasurer Joseph Ren; secretary Royal Anderson, 107 E. Delavan Ave., Buffalo 8, N. Y.

Meetings are held the first and third Wednesday at 8 p. m. at the Hotel Buffalo, Buffalo, N. Y. Visitors are always welcome at the meetings which are kept interesting with lots of stamps and philatelic programs.

Israel Six Four Youth Immigration

A series of six stamps honoring the Aliyat Hanoar, or Youth Immigration institution in Israel, will be issued in March, according to information received from Jerusalem by the Israel Philatelic Agency in America, Inc.



The attractive designs were executed by Miriam Karoly of Haifa, and depict young people in various activities. The set consists of six denominations—5, 10, 25, 30, 60 and 750 pruta. Colors have not been announced.

The 5 and 10 pruta denominations show youngsters arriving in Israel by plane and ship. The 25 pruta symbolizes youth's part in the raising of live-stock, and shows a boy carrying a lamb in his arms. The 30 pruta depicts a young girl gar-

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P.S. "Hugo" sold us his collection two
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MARRUECOS Linn's Weekly Stamp
News
SIDNEY, Ohio.
U. S. A.

VARIOUS CITY GATES FEATURED. On February 1 Spanish Morocco released a set of five regulars and one special delivery stamp which pictured famous gates of cities within the protectorate. Denominations of the regulars are 15, 25, and 80c, 1 and 15 Pesetas. The special delivery is a 2Pts. A special cancellation, to be seen on the cover, was applied on the first day in Tetuan. Carlos Lenze, Barquillo 29, Madrid, Spain sent it.

**Reader Raised On Plains
Blows Our Horn Grandly;
Has Wonderful Philosophy**

Linn's Weekly Stamp News
Sidney, Ohio
Gentlemen:

As this is bound to be one of my last renewals on account of my rather advanced age (I was born in Oberlin, Ohio in 1868), am in my 87th year, which leads me to assume that I am one of your oldest subscribers, as to personal age. I wish to express, or at least indicate, my appreciation of your most excellent magazine, Linn's Weekly Stamp News, and all my admiration and liking for its able, honest and frankly blunt editors, Mr. George Linn and Mr. Carl P. Rueth.

The world, and particularly, the newspaper world and its readers, would be much improved in confidence and honesty if they were led by such moulders of public opinion of the subject under discussion as are the two "skippers" of the philatelic ship "Linn's Weekly", namely Mr. Linn and Mr. Rueth.

I happen to be the first collector of United States Income Tax for the state of Kansas, having started duty forty-one years ago the first of this month in Topeka, Kans., February 1, 1914—and later was Gen. Deputy Collector of Internal U. S. Revenue for the District of Kansas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Also for over fourteen years was a deputy in the City Treasurer's Office of Kansas City, Mo., besides several other routine positions, among them Deputy U. S. Marshal. So you see I have met many men and women of "high and low degree" as well as of "influence and affluence".

My parents brought me to Nemaha County, Kansas in my second year, where like Topsy, I "grewed up" on its open prairies, wild, free and practically unschooled; a day's drive in a big lumber wagon to the nearest town where the post office was always located in the back of the general store. Newspapers and letters were almost a nonentity. Just a few a year, and a stamp meant no more than one of the countless blades of grass on the open wild prairie.

I had never written or received a letter until I was almost a full grown man, when by some miracle I became a school teacher in 1887. I acquired quite a fraction of my meager knowledge while herding cattle, as well as lessons in nature.

Having been raised in the "rough and ready" school of poverty and frugality, and lacking culture and refinement, I, and of course my young associates always felt an "inferiority complex" in the presence of "city-slickers" and well-dressed persons. Our "jeans" did not harmonize with their broadcloth and silk — and we felt it.

The result was that when we "grewed up" and had to rub shoulders with those people we were surprised to learn that they were not our superiors, but in many cases, our inferiors, in real personal refinement, morality as well as mental ability. And the qualities that command confidence and respect.

In my adult and official life I have had to contact, officially, presidents of banks, railroads, corporations, and doctors, lawyers, judges and high generals of the U. S. Army. And I soon learned that when "Mr. Big" and "Mrs. and Miss Snootey" were confronted by a stranger who seemed to be their equal in ability and had all the power of Uncle Sam "in and behind" him, they fell off their high horses and were just as humble and meek and respectful as we "green horns" and clodhoppers were on the wild open roads and bridgeless creeks of the prairies.

Kipling was right when he wrote, "The Colonel's Lady and Mary O'Grady are sisters under the skin."

So am I, the reader, and you the writer, and you are pleased

with, and appreciate, our appreciation and honest acknowledgment of your labors and good work and writings, just as much as humble but ambitious school boys and girls that stood before me almost three-quarters of a century ago, did.

I feel that I am writing what most of your readers feel but fail to write it — namely that Mr. Linn and Mr. Rueth are leaders, in fact THE LEADERS, in their chosen field of labor.

May the Good Lord, without whom you can do nothing, continue to bless you with good health in your good clean field of labor long after I have passed off the stage of life where He has permitted me to say and do my little part for so long.

You are two good men who are leaving "your mark" and clean influence on the minds of men and women yet unborn.

Your friend,

B. P. Redmond
204 S. Indiana Ave.
Kansas City 23, Mo.

**Swedish Stamp
Program Full One**

Sweden's flag will appear in its natural colors on a set of two which that nation will release June 6, a national holiday, "The Swedish Flag Day". According to Martin Bostrom, Hertig Karlsalle 50B, Orebro Sweden the 40th anniversary of the flag will be celebrated with their release.

Probably on July 1 will come the set Sweden will issue to note the 100th anniversary of its first postage stamps. A 25 ore will come in coil and booklet form, and the 40c in coil only. The design will be common to both.

In connection with the opening of "Stockholmia" the centenary international philatelic exhibition at Stockholm, will come a set of five. Designs will reproduce the first stamps of Sweden, the skillful banners, in the same denominations, 3, 4, 6, 8, 24. At the bottom where the banco denominations exist, these will be overprinted with lines of the same color as the stamps, but darker so that the denominations in the upper right corners will stand for values in the current ore.

Face of the five is 45 ore (9c). However they can only be purchased with a ticket to the exhibition and this will bring their cost to 2 Kroner (40c). Nothing has been said by the Postal Administration how non-attendees will be able to get copies, but in the past such situations have never stopped the world's stamp dealers from getting copies for clients.

Only July 21, Sweden will release a set of two in honor of the death centenary of author Per Daniel Amadeus Atterbom. Denominations are to be 20 ore and 1.40Kr.

Mr. Bostrom states that there will be possibly as many as six special cancellations this year in connection with various Scouting events.

Finland on March 30 will issue a 25 markka of limited distribution. It will be available only to those attending the philatelic exhibition at Helsinki. Printing will be 130,000 copies.

**Expedition To Carry
North Pole Covers**

On or about March 8 the American Polar Basin Expedition will leave New York for the North Pole, and will carry a limited number of covers.

The expedition will be under the guidance of Arctic explorer and author, Comdr. John Stanwell-Fletcher. The party will consist of twenty scientists, four Eskimos, eighty sledge dogs and the Commander's wife Peggy.

The purpose of the party is scientific research—the testing of new instruments and the setting up of data for air survival and rescue.

A large part of the proceeds from covers will go toward the sponsorship of the expedition. A special engraved souvenir cover, cancelled at the north pole, will be sent to those who contribute \$1.00, which should be sent to the Headquarters of the American Polar Basin Expedition, 501 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.

**Mitchell Solomon
President At Flatbush**

Mitchell Solomon was chosen president of the Flatbush Philatelic Club of Brooklyn, N. Y. Other officers are vice president Gus Capello; treasurer Samuel Friedman; secretary Alan Washor, 280 Parkside Ave., Brooklyn 26, N. Y.

Claimed to have the largest membership of any of the Brooklyn societies, the group meets the first and third Monday at Beverly Rd. and E. 19th St. Visitors are welcome.

SPECIAL THIS WEEK

U. S. Plate Block #724
Wm. Penn at \$2.00

C. R. Garland (APS)
Morristown 3, Tenn.

MINT PLATE BLOCKS

6 for \$1.00					
932	934	935	943	947	950
987	990	991	992	993	994
995	996	997	998	1002	1000
1020	1023	1025	1027	1028	1000

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707	2c	Bi Centennial 1.00
708	3c	Bi Centennial 1.00
709	4c	Bi Centennial 1.00
716	2c	Lake Placid 1.00
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1-13	Pope and keys	3.40	156-57 Saint Marie	.. 22	C22-23 St. Peters	.. 1.10
14	Provisional	1.10	174-75 Lateran	.. 26	E1-2 Spec. Delivery	.. 1.00
19-27	Pope and views	.. 30	176-81 Lateran Year	.. 30	E3-8 3 sets	.. 1.00
19-34	Pope and Views	4.30	182-84 St. Pius	.. 26	E9-10 Cardinals	.. 1.00
26-31	Views	.. 3.60	185-86 St. Francis	.. 18	E11-12 Basilicas	.. 1.00
32-34	Views	.. 45	New St. Augustine	.. 26	E13-14 Popes	.. 1.00
41-43	Short Set	1.25	Maier 3 values	.. 30	J7-12 Dues	.. 1.00
61-67	Interregnum	1.10	B1-4 Holy Year	.. 1.60	J13-18 New Dues	.. 1.00
143-44	Dogma	.. 40	C1-8 Ails	.. 75	Q1-15 Parcel Post	.. 1.00
145-48	Beautifical	.. 70	C9-15 Ails	.. 75	C18-19 Ails. Used	.. 1.00
155a	Sheet	.. 80	C16-17 Ails (scarce)	5.70	C22-23 Ails. Used	.. 1.00
154-55	Prov - Cent	.. 35	C20-21 Graziano	.. 2.90		

Blocks available pro rata.

Scandinavian approvals sent on request.

HARRY KARLSSON

870 42nd STREET

BROOKLYN 32, N. Y.

Gypsy Rose Lee A Collector

Gypsy Rose Lee, the noted strip-tease artist, has been a keen stamp collector since she was nine. She mainly collects British Empire, specializing in Australian issues, though she does confess to having a few "foreign nudes" in her collection.

How do we know all this? Because Miss Lee gave these and many more interesting details of her collecting activities to Australian "Stamp News", the monthly newspaper for collectors, while on a recent visit to Australia.

A rollicking three column interview, plus photo, appeared in "Stamp News". Picture above is an exclusive "Stamp News" photo showing Miss Lee (and her small son Erik) at an Australian Stamp Dealers' Convention where dealers presented her with a special gift album.

This is typical of the exclusive type of interesting stamp stories, photos and articles to be found in "Stamp News", one of the world's finest philatelic publications. "Stamp News" is packed with UNUSUAL material ranging from special cartoons to rib-tickling humour. It's readable! It's interesting! It's unusual.

Send \$2 and we will post you all back issues to April 1954 (including the Gypsy Rose Lee issue) and enter your subscription right through to April 1956. Here's a special offer you cannot afford to miss. Please remit by dollar bills, bank draft, Money Order or personal check. No coins or stamps please. Send to:—

"STAMP NEWS"

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A steel mill is pictured on a stamp of Poland.

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VALUES - Odd values - BRITISH AIRMAILS etc. (no iron curtain) - SHILLINGS, BAHTS, PESOS, MARKS, LIRES, etc.

5.00 cat. val.net \$1.40

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Also other mixtures on paper at \$5.00 per 1/4 lb.

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CARL STEFFENS

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Cat. Price

2375 Afghanistan C7-9 used 5.25

2380 Bolivia C189-15 mint 1.12

2380 Bolivia C189-15 mint 1.12

2376 Belg. E. Afr. 37-54 mint 1.50

2385 Egypt B8-12 mint 2.65

1291 Luxembourg B121-5 mint 3.05

1979 N. Zealand 247-57 used 2.05

You can order from this ad or send your name and address to be put on our mailing list.

Watch for our next full page ad in the issue of March 7, 1955

WE DO NOT SEND APPROVALS.

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Box 571L Brooklyn 35, New York

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A WONDERFUL device for stamp collectors - StampLift separates stamps stuck to each other or to paper. And the best part is you don't have to soak the stamps - colors are unharmed. Mint stamps are separated without destroying the original gum. \$3 Paid

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H. E. WILSON & CO.

Box 500-D Encino, Calif.

INDIA

Stamp Centenary Souvenir Album

containing Post Independence

Stamps, Scott #200 to 247, M44 to M55

Album of Facsimiles, issued by the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Dept., in connection with Philatelic Exhibition at New Delhi 10.00

INDIA, 1954 Stamp Centenary Souvenir F.D.C. with special postmark 1.00

1954, United Nations mint, 8c 25

1954, Forest Congress mint, 8c 20

1954 Forces in India C18-21 mint 1.50

India on 4 cacheted F.D.C. (See Illustr. in Western Stamp Coll. Jan. 25) 10.00

1955, new "Five Year Plan" Pic-torial, 3p to 10R (18), cpl. mint 6.95

India to 1R (13), cpl. mint 1.95

PAKISTAN, on India, 5p opt. in-verted (new discovery) 5.00

2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9d, 1/2, 1/4, 1/8, 1/16, 1/32, 1/64, 1/128, 1/256, 1/512, 1/1024, 1/2048, 1/4096, 1/8192, 1/16384, 1/32768, 1/65536, 1/131072, 1/262144, 1/524288, 1/1048576, 1/2097152, 1/4194304, 1/8388608, 1/16777216, 1/33554432, 1/67108864, 1/134217728, 1/268435456, 1/536870912, 1/1073741824, 1/2147483648, 1/4294967296, 1/8589934592, 1/17179869184, 1/34359738368, 1/68719476736, 1/137438953472, 1/274877906944, 1/549755813888, 1/1099511627776, 1/2199023255552, 1/4398046511104, 1/8796093022208, 1/17592186044416, 1/35184372088832, 1/70368744177664, 1/140737488355328, 1/281474976710656, 1/562949953421312, 1/1125899906842624, 1/2251799813685248, 1/4503599627370496, 1/9007199254740992, 1/18014398509481984, 1/36028797018963968, 1/72057594037927936, 1/144115188075855872, 1/288230376151711744, 1/576460752303423488, 1/1152921504606846976, 1/2305843009213693952, 1/4611686018427387904, 1/9223372036854775808, 1/18446744073709551616, 1/36893488147419103232, 1/73786976294838206464, 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1/50216810017795527230072874666562908714754708735437185929648241206030150753768844220

An ice dancer, skier and a hockey player are to be seen on stamps Poland issued in 1953.

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Knoble Stamp Supply
Wash. Bldg., Sandusky, Ohio

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ITALIAN.
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P. OSTROW
P. O. Box 121-N, Elizabeth, New Jersey

ICELAND	Mint	Used
#246-52 Hekla set 7 val.	1.05	.40
#253-56 U.P.U. set 4 val.	.30	.25
#257-64 89-70 Pictorials 10val.	.90	.42
#265-66 Arason set	.32	.23
#267-68 Postal Commems	.39	.16
#271 25Kronor Hi value	1.60	.90
#272-275 President Bjornsson	1.35	.65
1954 Hafstein set 3 val.	.70	.32

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Any 3c issue. Nos. 929 through 963 and 981 to date. Mint \$.07 each. Used \$.05 each. No matched numbers.

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LUXEMBOURG, N1-NB9	1.75
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Collections, accumulations. Covers. Pre-cancelled anything in stamps. Send with your price or for my offer. Will travel reasonable distance to inspect valuable properties.
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35 Mint blocks of 424.00
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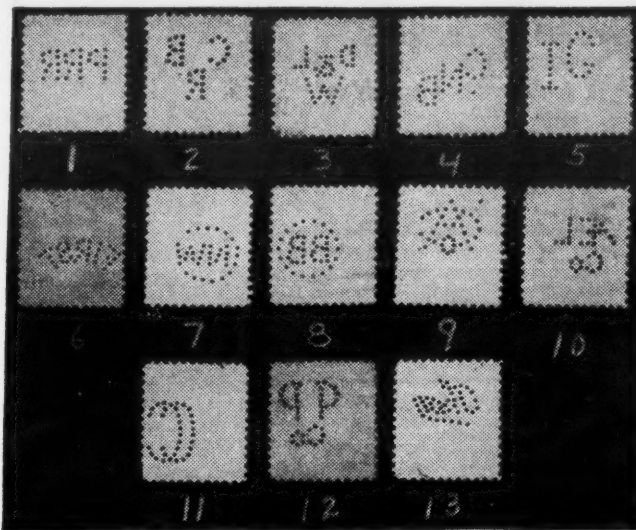
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We pay \$125.00 for complete sets Weddings (\$500. for blocks of 4)

UNION STAMP CO.
240 Broadway New York 7, N.Y.



How Perfins Are Classified And Cataloged

- A complete Perfin catalog listing includes the following:
- The letters of the design arranged according to rules below;
 - A code symbol, from the list below, showing the type of design;
 - The height of the letters in the same order as (a) to 1/2mm; letters are measured from center-to-center of outermost holes;
 - The name of the Perfin owner;
 - The main office of the owner unless this Perfin is used only from a branch office, in which case the branch office is given.

In listing the letters, the symbol -&- is treated as the 27th letter of the alphabet and the numerals follow in their order. However, unless 1 and zero are identifiable as such, they are treated as I and O, letters of the alphabet.

The break between lines is shown by the diagonal bar -/- and the presence of a serif on a letter is shown by the underline or by the use of an italicized letter. One or more letters enclosed in parentheses indicates that those letters are enclosed in the letter immediately preceding the indicated letters.

One of the following code symbols will always be used:

- H One or more letters in one horizontal line (1)
2H two such lines (2)
3H three such lines (3)
D letters diagonally in downward echelon (4)
Du letters diagonally in upward echelon (5)
A letters arranged in the arc of a circle (6)
Ex Exogram—one letter is larger and encloses another (7)
En Endogram—a letter is enclosed in a geometrical figure (8)
M a monogram or miscellaneous (9)

Auxiliary symbols used with the above

- Co Combined—two letters share a line of holes (10)
Ov Overlap—two letters share a single hole, as by crossing (11)
R A letter is reversed (12)
F Fancy—the letters are script or fancy (13)

In reading a monogram, the letters are listed in the order that they can be read, from left to right.

Where all of the letters are of equal height in a line, the dimension is given but once; the same measurement for two lines is not repeated.

If a group of letters reads equally well either way, e.g. AM or MA, it is listed at the point of correct identification, if known, and if this is not the first alphabetical place for it, it is cross-referenced from the first point to the proper listing.

Where the foregoing information is not sufficient to clearly distinguish a design, additional explanation or an illustration will be used to assist.



Feb. 28—Roberts Stamp Co., 116 Nassau St., New York 38, N. Y. United States mint, used, covers, General.

Feb. 28—Gadsden Stamp Co., P. O. Box 381, Hurley, N. M. United States. mint and used, Canada, Newfoundland.

Feb. 28—March 1—H. R. Harmer, Inc., 32 E. 57th St., New York 22, N. Y. General Foreign, specialized Finland.

March 1—Star Stamp Co., 505 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y. British Empire, specialized George VI, General.

March 4—Alcure & Meyer, P. O. Box 1013, Coral Gables, Fla. United States, General Foreign, Job Lots, Collections.

March 5—Chauncey R. Wright, 119 Harvard St., Rochester 7, N. Y. United States incl. rare coils, Zepp covers, Wholesale.

March 5—Mercury Stamp Co., 522 Fifth Ave., New York 22, N. Y. United States mint, used, covers, General.

March 5—Stampazine, 315 W. 42nd St., New York 36, N. Y. United States British Empire, General, Covers.

March 9—National Highway Post Office Society, Leon A. Paulson, Raymond, Minn., HPO Material, 1st flights, FDC's.

March 9-10—F. R. Perryman, 505 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y. United States, General Foreign, Postal History.

March 10—H. Lazarus, 29 Wadsworth Ave., New York 33, N. Y. Postal History material, General, Literature.

March 12—Stampazine, 315 W. 42nd St., New York 36, N. Y. United States, British Empire, General, Covers.

March 12—Higgins & Gage, 23 N. Santa Anita, Pasadena 8, Calif. U. S. and Poss., Brit. Colls., General.

March 14—Roberts Stamp Co., 116 Nassau St., New York 38, N. Y. U. S., British Commonwealth, General, Lots.

March 14-16—H. R. Harmer Inc., 32 W. 48th St., New York 36, N. Y. United States and General Foreign.

March 15—Hobbs Stamp Co., 38 Park Row, New York 38, N. Y. United States mint, used, General Foreign.

March 16—J. N. Sissons, Ltd., 59 Wellington W., Toronto, Canada. Early Canada, BNA and Wholesale.

March 17-18—Max Pool, 41 W. 86th St., New York 24, N. Y. United States, British Empire, General, Collections.

March 17-18—F. W. Kessler, 500 Fifth Ave., New York 36, N. Y. U. S. inc. Zepps, Flight Covers, Canada. UPU's.

March 18—Michael M. Karen, 1487 Greenport Rd., Far Rockaway, N. Y. United States, mint and used, Literature.

March 18—Earl P. Apfelbaum, 1416 S. Penn Sq., Philadelphia 2, Pa. United States, British Colonies, General.

March 18—Herman Herst, Jr., Shrub Oak, N. Y. United States, British Colonies, General Foreign.

SPECIAL EDITIONS

Various dealers will want to time some of their advertising to appear in conjunction with the special editions of Linn's Weekly Stamp News sponsored by different specialist groups. These editions are always the last one of each month and contain a splendid amount of information about the particular country or specialty.

The next four editions of a special nature are as follows:—

March 28—AMERPO
April 25—COROS, Collectors of Religion on Stamps Society.

May 30—American Topical Association.

June 27—Scouts on Stamps Society.

Further inquiries can be directed to this paper by interested dealers.

Clubs or societies agreeable to sponsoring a special edition can get the details on request.

New Haven Cachet Has Train, Clipper

A cachet to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the "Yankee Clipper", one of the fastest running trains of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, has been prepared by the New Haven Railroad Y.M.C.A. Stamp Club. The club has arranged with the Postmasters at New York and Boston for cancellations on March 18.

The envelope is engraved and attractively printed in blue and silver, depicting the original train that began its run on March 18, 1930, with a full rigged clipper ship as a background.

Applications should be addressed to Cachet Chairman, Railroad Stamp Club, 140 S. Orange St., New Haven, Conn. accompanied by 10 cents to cover the cost of stamp, decorated envelope, printed filler and servicing. Both New York and Boston cancellations may be obtained by ordering two covers at ten cents each. No limit is placed on the number ordered.

Topicals Are A Perfin Category

If you like topical collecting, you can find real pleasure in Perfins. The most popular topic in Perfins is railroading. A nice little collection of this sort can be built up with about 60% of the possible items easily available and only a half dozen rarities making eventual completion difficult.

Each railroad maintains hundreds or even thousands of stations and each of these has need for stamps; it is only natural that the idea of Perfins was early taken up by the roads.

The Great Eastern in England was among the first ten users. Also the railroads continue to be the largest group of users. Although meters are found in nearly all the large offices, it is impractical to install them in all the small way stations.

So you can depend on finding a number of the more common railroad Perfins in any handful you pick. You will probably also be introduced to your first variety. PRR comes in two Dies, easily distinguishable if looked for.

Over the years the consolidations have caused the disappearance of many roads as separate entities. For example, the MC/RR, BIG/4 and LS/MS roads are now part of the NYC. Perfins of these types must be sought among the older accumulations but they are still not too hard to find because they were plentiful to begin with.

The case of the RPR is different. The Panama Railroad used Perfins for only a few years and then was granted the franking privilege. The perforating machine was shipped to the Canal Zone and the two R's were removed from the dies. The remaining letter P was used to form the early Canal Zone officials. As a result, the original RPR Perfin is sought for by Canal Zone specialists as well as by Perfin Collectors.

There are many other interesting topical fields in Perfins. Banks, insurance companies, colleges and state and local governments are all promising fields.

For collectors of foreign Perfins, there are many countries that have perforated their stamps for official use. Foreign catalogs, notably Yvert & Tellier, list many of these but no one catalog lists all types and there are a few well-documented types not found in any catalog.

The chairman of the Topical Committee of Perfins Club is H. A. Warrell, 600 W. 196th St., Inwood Station, New York 34, N. Y.

Hopkinson Award Jury Appointed

Sol Glass, president of the Bureau Issues Assn. has appointed the following to serve as a special jury to pick the best article published in the "Bureau Specialist" during 1954 — Winthrop S. Boggs, John R. Boker, Jr., and Henry M. Goodkind.

This special jury will study the articles published in the monthly magazine of the Bureau Issues Association during 1954 and select the winner under the terms of the Walter W. Hopkinson Memorial Award, valued at \$100 cash.

The award is granted every year to the author of the best

DAVID A. DANN P.T.S.

All used unless otherwise stated. Scott 1955 Nos.

Add 15c to all orders under \$5.00.

HUNGARY. 1954 Fruit & Vals. not listed. 70c 1954 Air & Vals. used 70c. Blocks pro-rata

FRENCH COLONIES. Equatorial Africa C31 10c, C32 10c, C33 20c, C37 \$1.50.

Somalia Coast. C15 15c, C16 25c, C17 45c.

West Africa C12 5c, C13 5c, C14 10c, C16 \$1.00, blocks of four \$4.25.

ISRAEL. #15 15c, 22 25c, 26 25c, 55 \$1.00. C9 60c, C14 10c, C15 20c.

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Announces The Introduction of The

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#20-Y U. S. Singles 1954 Commemoratives, Regular, 35c

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articles published. The announcement of the winner and the winning articles will be announced in March.

10 Different Blocks Assorted Cachets \$2.00
All clean and unaddressed.

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Pound Mission Mixture

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BELGIAN CONGO (Used)
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Flags (13)1.151.00
UPU (3)7030
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Costales Joins Scott's Staff

Scott Publications, Inc., announces that Eugene N. Costales has joined its editorial staff. He will assist the present editor, Gordon R. Harmer, in the yearly revision of the foreign stamp listings in both volumes of Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue.

Mr. Costales was associated with the Scott Stamp & Coin Co. from 1916 to 1926, and during that period worked with John N. Luff, who was then editor of the Scott Catalogue. He proved an apt pupil, gathering much of his extensive stamp knowledge from Mr. Luff. In 1922, Mr. Costales became the first editor of Scott's United States Catalogue Specialized.

He served as a director of the American Stamp Dealers' Assn. for seven years, as a member of the expert committee of the American Philatelic Association for seven years and as chairman of the Vigilance Committee of the ASDA for about 20 years.

Liechtenstein Scout Stamps On Maximum

Emanuel, Prince of Liechtenstein, and Chief Scout of the Boy Scouts of that country, has personally autographed a limited number of attractive maximum cards of interest to Scouts generally.

Besides his written signature, the cards bear his portrait, a picture of the Castle at Vaduz, also Lord Baden-Powell and the Prince, plus the full set of four commemorative Liechtenstein issued for the 14th International Scout Conference held at Vaduz last August 8 to 13.

The stamps are tied to the card with a first day cancellation. W. Arthur McKinney, 99 Rockin-chair Rd., White Plains, N. Y. has the cards for sale at \$1.25 each. Proceeds of the sale will go to the Boy Scouts of Liechtenstein.

Offer Seals For A.P.S. Convention

If readers who are interested in publicity seals will send a stamped (3c) addressed envelope to Robert T. Ott, 434 New Jersey Ave., Norfolk 8, Va., he will send them some prepared for the American Philatelic Society Convention and Exhibition without cost.

This event is scheduled for Norfolk, September 21 to 23 at the Monticello Hotel. Jesse G. Johnson is the chairman of arrangements.

Dealer ★ ★ Doings

Franklin Simon, 257-02 83rd Ave., Floral Park, L. I., N. Y. has an auction this edition which should attract every collector who has general foreign interests. Material ranges the entire world in complete mint sets and singles. However there are a number of lots of used stamps of the desirable countries. Ending the sale are some wholesale lots.

Orvis C. Stuck, of Stuck's Book and Stamp Store, Delaware & Dickson Sts., Scranton, Pa. has been twenty years in stamps and is now on the verge of retiring from the business. He has a stock with a catalog value of approximately \$45,000 for which he has a selling price of \$3500. It consists of mint United States and General Foreign, the latter in sets.

A "1955 Wholesale Price List of Popular Countries" is available to dealers who apply for it on their business stationery from Jack Kantor, P. O. Box 329, Larchmont, N. Y. The material consists of 20th century mint sets and includes the British Commonwealth, Europe and Colonies, South and Central America and Elizabeth II issues. Mention Linn's

Charles J. Molnar, 1246 Summit Dr., Cleveland 24, Ohio has a Wholesale Price List of United States Stamps which is sent to dealers who give a proper indication they are members of the trade. Offerings include postage and commemorative issues, airmails, dues, parcel post, officials, revenues, pre-cancelled, ducks by the ten and hundred.

"Stamp Talk" is the house organ of Frederick L. Hall, P. O. Box 236, Marshfield Hills, Mass. It is now in its sixth volume with No. 15. It contains various offers from the Hall stock heavy in mint complete sets of new issues from all over the world. Of advantage is the fact that many of the stamps are illustrated thereby being of help to the topicalist.

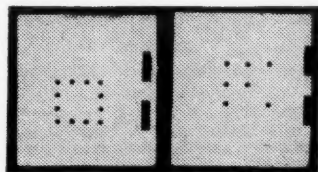


QUITE A HAND AT DIPLOMACY was Louis de Rouvroy, the Duke of St. Simon (1675-1755). He was honored on February 5 with a 12fr commemorative which bears his portrait, and a special postmark applied to first day covers at Paris. He served his country in a number of important capacities being closely attached to the royal court. His "Memoires" are his main contribution to literature and they were written for his own information. The public figures of the day are handled adeptly in this work. It lacks much in grammar and rhetoric but has the knack of making the reader share his feelings. The cover was sent by Pierre A. Cubell, 2 Rue des Gravières, Soissons (Aisne), France.

Perfins Can Be Specialized

It seems odd to speak of specializing in a field that is already so specialized that there are only 150 enrolled members of the Perfin Club. Yet, one of the advantages of an unexplored field is that you can farm it any way you like. For the benefit of any philatelic agriculturalists who prefer to plow deep rather than wide, let's look the ground over.

There is that long-standing favorite—cover collecting. Covers have real purpose in Perfins and you won't have the sameness of made-to-order covers in your album. Perfins are only found on commercially used covers, so you must take them as you find them. The purpose behind Perfin cover collections is their reference value. There is no official source of perfin identification; you find a cover with a Perfin in one top corner and a printed return card in the other; that's your identification.



Schermack Perfins

If some one else has a different identification, that's a tough nut for the Catalog Committee. Of one thing you may be sure although you will have a chance of a lifetime of collecting with little chance of completion, you will not face a large outlay. Prices are low and the competition modest.

A small but difficult specialty is that of the Schermack Perfins, found only on the Type III Schermack. Immediately after Perfins were authorized, in the U. S. in 1908 an attachment was devised for the Mail-O-Meter to imitate the usual style of Perfin.

Why the word "imitate"? Ordinary Perfins are produced in quantity, 10 to 50 at a stroke of the machine. The Schermack attachment was built into a coil handling machine and perforated a single stamp as it passed through the works. Although it performed the job of identifying the user of the machine, it soon became apparent that there really wasn't any use for the attachment. The only way to get a stamp out of the machine was to paste the stamp on an envelope and although it is reported that theft of stamps from covers on the way to the post office is common in primitive lands, it is hardly worth the bother in this one. The attachment was soon discarded as a needless luxury but not before about 100 scarce items were put in circulation for Perfin collectors to chase.

There are a number of collectors who limit themselves to particular Scott issues. Another article discusses the collection of 1932 Stuarts. Since the 1902 issue was on its way out as Perfins came in, a collection of Perfins on the 1902 issue includes only the pioneers.

It might seem that there wouldn't be much fun in collecting just one company but it's so; a really pretty collection can be made of companies that have a large set of branch office identifications. Easily the two largest are International Harvester and New York Life with nearly 200 apiece and after them are General Electric, Standard Oil, Western Union and Western Electric each having around a hundred.

Topical and Foreign specialization are separately covered by other articles in this series. If Lincoln were here, he would surely say, "For persons who like to specialize, this is the specialty to specialize."

New Stamp Club In Dallas-Ft. Worth Area

A new stamp collecting group, the Dalworth Stamp Club, has been formed in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas area. For the present, meetings are closed to outsiders—these are held on the second and fourth Thursdays at the First National Bank Bldg. in Arlington, Texas.

Sam Banks is the president of the club and Robert Bartell, 708 Briarwood Blvd., Arlington, Texas is the secretary. The secretary will be pleased to give further information about the club.

EXHIBITION DATES

Feb. 26-27—Fox Valley Stamp and Coin Club, YMCA, Aurora, Ill.
March 1-31—Oshkosh Philatelic Society, Public Museum, Oshkosh, Wis.
March 4-6—POLPEX 1955, Polonus Philatelic Society, Polish Falcons Hall, 1062 N. Ashland Ave. Chicago, Ill.
March 5-6—North West Stamp Society, Knights of Columbus Hall, 13500 Lesure at Grand River, Detroit, Mich.
March 5-6—Columbus Philatelic Club Southern Hotel Columbus Ohio.
March 11-13—North Shore Philatelic Society, Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago, Ill.
March 12-13—Illinois Federation of Stamp Clubs, Leland Hotel, Springfield, Ill. Springfield Philatelic Society hosts.
March 12-13—Springfield Stamp Society, Hotel Bancroft, Springfield, Ohio.
March 18-20—Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, Manger Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio.
March 19-20—Fresno Stamp Club, Parker-Nash Showroom, 1402 Broadway, Fresno, Calif.
March 25-27—SEPAD, Friends Select School, 16th St., North of Cherry Philadelphia, Pa.
March 25-27—Fortnightly Collectors Club, Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, N. C.

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Complete Mint Sets

402-04 Jose Rizal Commem. (3)	.28
425-30 Eucharistic Congr. (6)	.70
499-51 Foreign Trade Week (3)	.80
492-60 Arch. Palace, Inaug. (9)	.65
531-34 75th UPU & sheet (4)	.45
537-39, C18-9 Jr. C. C. Congr. (5)	.70
542-44, C20 Roosevelt & sht (4)	.90
545-46, C21-2 Lions Club Con. (4)	.65
C22a Lions Club souv. sht	.60
First Day Covers, 540-41 each	.30
542-44	.35
545-46	.25

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Complete list free.

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NEW—LAST MINUTE ARRIVALS

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Brazil Hydro (1)	.03	10c Canada Eskimo	.13
France St. Simon (1)	.06	ICAO United Nations	.15
Monaco Horses (5)	.30	Germany se tenant (5)	1.00
Poland Liberation (2)	.40	Turks Queen new (2)	.20
Suriname Statue (1)	.08	Czech Sports (2)	.18
India pictorials (11)	.95	Germany ships etc. (4)	.15

FOREIGN FIRST DAY CACHED COVERS just in:—MacQuarie Antarctic 35c; Italy Vespucci 45c; Italy Marian 50c; Liechtenstein Marian 11; Monaco Monte Carlo 75c; Canada Eskimo 30c; UN ICAO 35c.

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FIRST DAY—TO BE ANNOUNCED

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ARTCRAFT ENGRAVINGS are the world's finest first day covers—produced and sold by PIONEERS in the first day cover field. Veteran philatelists will tell you that ARTCRAFT ENGRAVINGS are the most sought after covers — yes, the one most wanted by those who know best.

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3c U. N. UNESCO	.20	.25	.30	.50	
8c U. N. UNESCO	.30	.40	.60	.95	
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287	.18	361	.18	.427 .45
301	.08	363	.18	.443 .80
308	.12	382	.25	C31 1.30
337	.25	388	.25	C35-39 1.80
350	.29	392	.18	C54 .22
387	.28	426	.20	C66 .35

Also have in stock many other Domin-
can Republic Stamps not listed here.
Can furnish complete 1955 Dominican
Republic check lists and also lists from
the balance of Latin America.
Approvals sent against our want list.
References Please.

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111-114	.90	267	.10
129-131	1.00	268	.30
132-135	1.10	269-271	.15
136-144	2.35	272-273	.10
145-148	.50	274	.10
149	.25	275-278	1.75
150-153	.95	279-289	.95
177-180	.80	290-291	.15
181-183	.30	292-293	.20
184-186	.20	295-297	.30
245-250	.55	299-301	.20
251-252	.10	304-306	.20
253-254	.15	318-320	.35
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SPECIALTY (Continued from page 1)

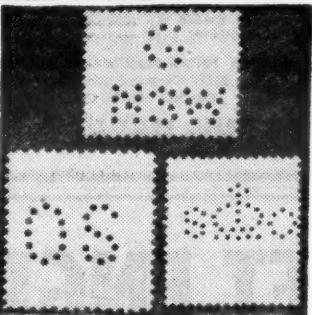
of having issued a postal duty
stamp in perforated condition
only. (Scott #37.)

Seemingly this system of
stamp protection proved ideal, for
several nations found it prac-
tical to utilize perforated identi-
fications as an excellent means
of accounting for postage stamps
used for "official" purposes. The
British Commonwealth undoubt-
edly has perfered the major por-
tion of official stamps. Almost
all of the overprinted types of
official stamps of Great Britain
are recognized by both Scott
and Gibbons—the official Perfin
type of stamps, even though they
serve the exact same purpose,
have been omitted without ex-
planation.

Yvert and Tellier list the old
officials of the 1887 to 1908 period
and yet overlook the "Crown
and SO" type that have been
used since about 1920 on nearly
every Great Britain issue. De-
spite such stamps being unlisted,
any collector of British officials
will point to the relatively high
prices realized at auction.

Such officials as the "Crown
and BT" (Board of Trade) or
"SO" (Her Majesty's Stationery
Office) are specific examples.

Consider also "G/NSW" (Gov-
ernment, New South Wales), and
"WA" (Western Australia) of the
Aussie officials.



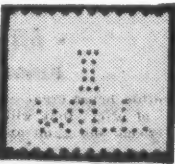
British and Australian Perfins

Factually all of the perforated
official stamps, particularly those
of Australia form a complete
study in themselves while the
perforated "OHMS" of Canada
also have a large following. Con-
siderable research has been done
on these Canadian issues alone
and the results have been
astounding.

Most countries have regula-
tions regarding the right to use
the perforated safeguard, while
others permit their use without
a restriction of any sort. Almost
all nations do attempt to dis-
courage the use of the identifi-
fing punctures as an advertising
medium. Some countries protect
Perfin users by refusing to ac-
cept punched stamps from any
person unless positive identifica-
tion is made.

In the U.S. our regulations are
specific, as follows: "United
States postage stamps, to be ac-
ceptable for postage shall be
without defacement, provided
that for the purpose of identi-
fication only, and not for adver-
tising, it shall be permissible to
puncture or perforate letters,
numerals or other marks or de-
vices in United States postage
and Special Delivery stamps.

"The punctures or perforations
shall not exceed 1/32 of an inch
in diameter, and the whole space
occupied by the identifying de-
vice shall not exceed 1/2 inch
square. The puncturing or per-
forating shall be done in such
a manner as to leave the stamp
easily recognizable, as genuine
and not previously used. Stamps
on which ink or other coloring
substance has been used, in con-
nection with such puncturing or
perforating shall not be accepted
as postage."



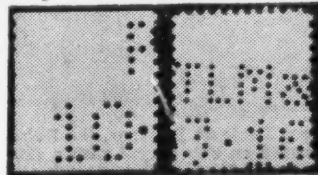
The Chicago "I WILL"

It is evident that little polic-
ing has been done to enforce the
above regulations. Probably the
most conspicuous illegal Perfin
known is the "I WILL" —
the "slogan" identification for
the city of Chicago. There is
physical proof that this punc-
tured symbol, a two line hori-
zontal, is well over the 1/2 inch
specification.

This unlawful perforating was
begun on the 1923 regular issue
coil stamps, and can still be
found used on the Presidential
2c coil. There have been others
noticed from time to time, how-
ever it is pleasing to know that
by far the greater percentage

of U. S. perfins do fall within
prescription.

Occasionally a Perfin having
excessively large holes, large
numbers or letters, etc. is found.
Such punctures usually cover the
entire stamp. Recognition of any
sort is many times impossible,
and a reasonable assumption is
that such perfins were made by
a check or a document cancel-
ling perforator; illegal, of course,
for postal issues.



Large Hole perfins, probably from
a check-writer or document can-
celling perforator.

As previously mentioned, the
first perforating machine was
produced by Joseph Sloper of
England during the year 1863;
to this very day Sloper and
Company are still engaged in
the manufacture of such devices.
His original machine was the
prototype of those which have
been made by various manufac-
turers throughout the years.

In this country the first perfor-
ating machine was reportedly
produced in 1887, 21 years before
the perforating of U.S. postage
stamps was permitted. It was
placed on the market by the
Cummins Perforator Company
of Chicago but was used almost
exclusively as a cancelling de-
vice for checks, business forms,
and documents.

With the advent of the postal
decree of 1908, these perforators
automatically became the logical
choice for perforating postage
stamps. The machines looked
very much like the early print-
ing presses, except that the hand
wheel has been replaced by a
lever arrangement.

Connected to this lever through
a cam arrangement, is a rigid
steel bar which holds a number
(5 to 10) of male dies; these male
dies, having inserted steel pins
which form the design or letter-
ing to be reproduced, do the ac-
tual work of perforating the
stamps.

Directly below the male die is
located the female die consisting
of a hardened steel plate in which
a duplication of the design is
drilled; the center of these holes
corresponding exactly with the
centers of the pins of the male
die. A system of guides assures
the die of moving in a vertical
plane thereby eliminating the
possibility of breaking off any
of the pins on the male die by
striking on the female die plate.

There is in addition a mechan-
ical device which aids centering
the stamps as they move for-
ward one row at a time. The
larger machines have a table
wide enough to accommodate a
standard sheet of stamps and
will perforate 20 to 40 stamps
per stroke, through 2 to 4 sheets.
The latter mentioned type of
machine, converted to an elec-
tric powered device, first ap-
peared on the market about 1920;
the lever arrangement having
been supplemented by a motor,
belt and pulley. Feeding too
many sheets into the machine,
or failure to keep the dies clean,
will almost surely result in the
pins of the male die becoming
broken or bent. The end result
is either ragged holes or missing
perforations.

Attention should be called to
the fact that only a small per-
centage of Perfins are found on
commemorative stamps. This is
readily understandable when it
is recalled that the machine dies
are so arranged as to accurately
center a design upon each stamp
on panels of the Presidential di-
mensions — namely 10 to each
horizontal row on the larger per-
forators. Such an arrangement
almost always produces a com-
memorative with one fully read-
able, although off-centered, de-
sign and including only a part
of another; or it results in only
partial presentation of both de-
signs.

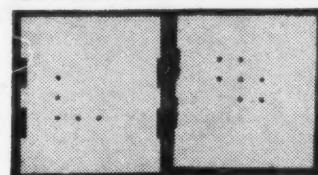
In either condition such per-
forated stamps do not serve to
enhance a Perfin collection.

Smaller machines; i. e. — five
dies, are usually fed the sheet of
stamps after it has been folded
lengthwise in the center. This
method produces half of the
specimens in the proper "face up"
attitude while the remaining half
must result in a "face down," or
backward fashion.

Prior to World War II perfor-
ating machines cost from \$39.50
up. Only two U. S. firms were
known to have made devices for
perforating sheet stamps—Cummins,
and American Perforator Co.,
both of Chicago.

The protecting of coil stamps
was another matter. It involved

the Schermack Company (later
the Mailometer Co.) and their
coil dispensing machines. Al-
though there is more than one
theory regarding the processing
of U. S. stamps by this company,
the following is the usually ac-
cepted one.



The number pattern 1 2 3
4 5 6
7 8 9

It will be recalled that the Post
Office Department sold mint
stamps to the Schermack Co. in
sheets of 400 (This explains the
reason why imperforate stamps
can be obtained for those is-
sues which were available dur-
ing the period that these ma-
chines were in operation.) Ap-
parently the sheets were cut and
rolled into coil form, and the
side slots, which were necessary
to permit feeding the stamps
through the dispensing machine,
were then made.

After inserting the roll into
the machine, the prescribed num-
ber were dispensed from the roll
and cut by a mechanically driven
knife blade. Any slight misalign-
ment of the coil of stamps, or the
cutter blade, would result in se-
vering a stamp at a point other
than squarely across the long
slot as intended.

Incorporated in this machine
was a specially designed die at-
tachment; this formed our Type
III coil stamps. This single die
punched the identifying pattern
at the same time that it dis-
pensed the stamps. The pattern
consisted of nine holes, three
horizontal rows of three holes
each, forming a square 7 milli-
meters on any side. The elimi-
nation of one or more holes of
the basic design offered many
combinations of possible identi-
fications.

Despite such a simplified
method of identification, it later
became apparent that it was an
unnecessary expense since the
machine itself could be locked
to prevent theft.

The dies of the sheet perfor-
ating machines, while very simi-
lar, do vary so far as motif is
concerned. In the U. S. no two
designs are alike. The bulk of
Perfins are either one or two
line horizontals. Numerals, de-
signs, and combinations of both
are often used and add excep-
tional interest to Perfin collect-
ing.

Probably the most extraordi-
nary die is that which was used
by the National Bank of the Repub-
lic. This Chicago institution pur-
chased a ten die perforator—each
individual die had a different
letter, all combined to produce
NBREPUBLIC; and, to further
increase the oddity the letters
NBR were of greater height than
the remaining seven letters.

In our country the perforator
manufacturers sell service along
with their machines. Despite the
fact that machines were pro-
duced by two different firms,
and over 6000 types are known,
not a single duplication has been
recorded. Each machine is re-
gistered to its particular owner
via a serial number which natu-
rally corresponds to its spec-
ific die configuration.

A recovery and redemption
system is also in effect. The
reliability of this system has
proven adequate. As proof, the
July 1953 Perfins Bulletin states:
"A few months ago the Oregon
State Police picked up in Salem,
two questionable characters.
They found on the men unused
Perfins of both the SP and SP&S
railroads. A visit to the SPS Sta-
tion Agent in town developed
that the only station operated
jointly by the two roads so that
both kinds of stamps could be
taken at once, was at Lebanon.
A telephone call at 4 a.m. to the
police at Lebanon resulted in the
discovery that the station had
been burglarized but it had not
been found out because of the

early hour. Perfins served their
purpose!"

In 1951, the Michigan State
Office Building at Lansing burn-
ed and, among a quantity of
waste paper sold were included
10,000 2c stamps, 28 years old
and all perforated with the fa-
miliar "M". They were recover-
(Continued on page 12)

66 Different United States, including
regular postage, commemoratives,
airs, dues, cut squares, seals, revenues,
specials and others with bargain
approvals. 10c

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New Canadian 10c Issue

On February 21st Canada will issue a new
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C2	.60	C2	.08
C3	.85	C3	.03
C6	.18	C4	.07
C7	.60	C5	.05
C10	.14	C6	.12
C11	.18	C14	.17
C18	.19	C15	.04
C19	.22	C16	.02
C20	.22	C17	.10
C21	.13	C18	.03
C22	.12	C19	.03
C23	.04	C20	.03
C32	.09	C21	.06
C33	.15	C22	.09
C34	.05	C24	.03

Above are copied from my 1955 used
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730 1c Chgo	2.10	731 3c Chgo	2.40
735 3c Byrd	1.90	750 3c Park	3.00
751 1c Park	1.15	778 TPEX	.27
797 SPA	.20	948 5c 10c Cen.	.19
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18-29	8.50	52	70	78
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36-39	2.75	55	25	81
40	.60	56	18	82
41-44	11.50	57	30	83
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(LEONARD EPSTEIN)

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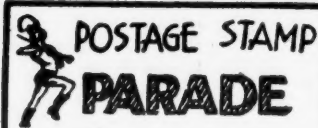
New York 4, N. Y.



They Didn't Make The Grade

In the course of stamp production the designs originally selected are by no means always the ones that are finally released. Through the courtesy of Frank Warner, dealer, New York City a few of these items are shown. Such essays are eagerly sought by specialists but aren't found too often.

In the top row, and reading from left to right are the following:—Germany—Germania type, 1920; Germany—Berlin scene, 1940; Hungary—(next two) scenes along the Danube River, 1936; Ireland—"Sinn Fein" essay prepared by a committee of the revolutionists, 1921. Center row, Paraguay—semipostal showing doctor and nurse, 1930; Mexico—(next four) designs by the Austrian artist H. C. Kosel. Bottom row, Transjordan—(two) Coronation stamps for King Talal. The ceremony, scheduled for September 6, 1951 was called off because of the monarch's mental ailment. Talal, a son of the assassinated King Abdullah, occupied the throne a short time but never appeared on any stamps except for the ones illustrated. The present ruler is King Hussein, son of Talal and grandson of Abdullah; Mexico—three different postage items.



LEONARD EPSTEIN 22 Beaver St., New York 4, N. Y.

BRAZIL — Some of the issues to be released during 1955 by this country are the following: A Rotary International stamp, 2.70Cr value, February 23; Third Aeronautical Congress, 60c, March 6; Centennial of the City of Botucatu, 60c, April 14; Sports, featuring children at play, 60c, April; two values for the International Eucharistic Congress, July 14; five airmail stamps and more values to the ordinary postage set.

On January 15, a 60c red-brown stamp was issued honoring the inauguration of the Hydroelectrical Station of San Francisco. The stamp, printed by the rotogravure process, pictures the station.

CANADA — On February 21, the new 10c stamp was issued. The stamp, in tribute to the Canadians in the far north, pictures an Eskimo in a Kayak.

COLOMBIA — Recently issued was a 5c brown, marked "Correo Extra Rapido". The center of the stamp pictures the Virgin at Chiquinquira, a noted shrine. This portion of the stamp is multi-colored.

DENMARK — On February 17, the Liberty Fund stamps of 1947 were issued, overprinted, for the benefit of the Liberty Fund. The surcharges are: 20 plus 5 ore on 15 plus 5 ore green, and 30 plus 5 ore on the 20 plus 5 ore red.

LIECHTENSTEIN — The Marian Year stamps have been issued by this country. The design for all is the same, picturing a 14th century wood carving of the Madonna and Child from the Museum in Vaduz. Values and colors are: 20c copper red; 40c slate; 1 franc brown.

SWITZERLAND — To publicize the National Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Lausanne, October 15 to 23, a miniature sheet, multi-colored, is to be issued. The proceeds from its sale are to be issued in purchasing exhibition frames and racks. Two stamps of the same design are pictured, showing the Lausanne Cathedral, and post horn with white cross on a red background.

Above and below the stamps are scrolls with inscriptions and on either side are two carrier pigeons. The stamps on the sheet are imperforate and the selling price is 2 francs.

SWITZERLAND — The Director General of Posts advises that the 1955 Publicity stamps will be placed on sale on February 15. There will be four values to this set. They are: 5c brown, the design will be the same as that on the miniature sheet for

POSTAGE STAMP PARADE

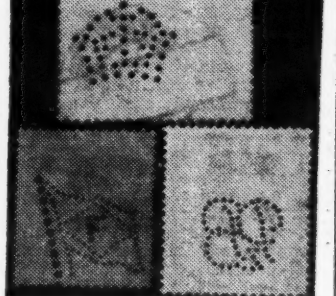
the Philatelic Exhibition. The 10c green shows the Hat of the Canton of Vaud and is to be issued for the Wine Growers Festival.

A 20c picture an Alpine horn blower of the nineteenth century and will be issued for the Swiss Alpine Herdsman and Costume Festival. The last value, 40c, pictures an automobile steering wheel and will be issued for the 25th International Automobile Show.

Perfins From Foreign Lands

More than a hundred countries as listed in Scott's catalog have either permitted the use of Perfins by commercial organizations or made official use of them.

Of these, comparatively complete listings exist for the following countries: Argentina; Australia; Canada; Finland; Japan; The Philippines.



Some pretty foreign perfins

It is reported that data is available for the Netherlands and Sweden but there has been no publication of this information as yet.

Great Britain has an active study circle led by Ronald Bowman, 94 Lovel Ave., Welling, Kent, England. It includes members on both sides of the water. Because there are probably even more varieties of G.B. than U.S. and because they go back so much earlier, the problems of a catalog are really difficult. An added problem of identification is involved because British business practice does not afford the help that U.S. collectors obtain from American firms.

A great many substantial British companies quite modestly conduct their correspondence in plain envelopes without the slightest type of return address. American printers have evidently convinced their customers that valuable advertising benefits are to be derived from well-designed stationery above and beyond the obvious aid to the postal service.

Some Perfins of continental countries are most attractive. The U.S. and G.B. have strict rules limiting the size of Perfin holes and the size of the entire design. Many European nations are more liberal in their requirements, permitting

fancy works of art.

There is a long list of countries that have converted regular postal issues into stamps for official use. These are treated at some length in the 1944, "Stamp Collector's Annual", published in London. However, the work was frankly a preliminary study and much work needs to be done in revising it and bringing it up to date.

The Perfins Club has a Foreign Committee headed by Victor J. Van Lint, 8163 Sewell Ave., Fontana, California.

Perfin Issuing Nations

Algeria	Japan
Angola	Jugoslavia
Argentina	Kiauchau
Australia	Latvia
Austria	Lebanon
Aus. Off. in Turkey	Luxembourg
Bavaria	Mauritius
Belgium	Mexico
Bolivia	Monaco
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Natal
Brazil	Netherlands
British Honduras	Newfoundland
Bulgaria	New South Wales
Burma	New Zealand
Canada	Nicaragua
Canal Zone	Nigeria
Cape of Good Hope	Norway
Ceylon	Northern Rhodesia
Chile	Orange Free State
China	Orange River Col.
Colombia	Palestine
Costa Rica	Papua
Cuba	Peru
Curacao	Philippines
Czechoslovakia	Poland
Danzig	Porto Rico
Denmark	Portugal
Dutch East Indies	Queensland
Ecuador	Rhodesia
Egypt	Romania
Finland	Russia
France	Saar
Fr. Off. in Turkey	Siam
Gold Coast	South Australia
French Morocco	Southern Rhodesia
Funchal	Spain
Germany	Straits Settlements
Ger. Off. in Turkey	Sudan
Great Britain	Sweden
Guinea	Switzerland
Hong Kong	Tasmania
Hungary	Tanzania
India	Transvaal
Indo-China	Trieste
Iran	Trinidad & Tobago
Ireland	Tunisia
Italy	Turkey
Ital. Off. in Turkey	Un. of So. Africa
Jamaica	Upper Silesia
	Uruguay
	Venezuela
	Victoria
	West Australia
	Württemberg

Polish stamps of 1947 had a farmer, miner, fisherman and laborer.

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We are paying for U. S.				We are paying for Sheets			
Mint Used				Mint Used			
230 1c Columbian	.32	241 \$1 Colmb'n	20.00 15.00	894 Pony Express	10.00		
231 2c "	.21	242 \$2 "	22.00 12.50	895 3c Pan American	6.00		
232 3c "	.10	243 \$3 "	35.00 30.00	902 3c Emancipation	3.50		
233 4c "	.08	244 \$4 "	40.00 33.00	903 3c Vermont	3.00		
234 5c "	.07	245 \$5 "	45.00 38.00	904 3c Oregon	1.65		
235 6c "	.06	246 \$6 "	50.00 40.00	905 3c Stone	2.30		
236 8c "	.05	247 \$8 "	55.00 45.00	906 3c Palomar	2.50		
237 10c "	.04	248 \$10 "	60.00 50.00	907 3c Poultry	1.70		
238 15c "	.03	249 \$15 "	65.00 55.00	908 3c Riders	2.25		
239 20c "	.02	250 \$20 "	70.00 60.00	909 3c Ft. Bliss	2.40		
240 50c "	.01	251 \$50 "	75.00 65.00	1018 3c Ohio	2.25		

38 Park Row HOBBS STAMP CO. New York 38, N. Y.

An electric passenger train, and an electric locomotive can be seen on Polish stamps issued in 1954.

SCANDINAVIA
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NORWAY SWEDEN
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Nicaragua C186-202 (17) Cat. \$3.68..... 2.35
Salvador C66-68 (3) Cat. \$1.25..... .95
Ecuador C55-61 (7) Cat. \$1.48..... .95

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SILVER WEDDING, 1948 (138) \$140; used \$160.

SILVER JUBILEE, 1935 (249) \$80; used \$88

U.P.U. Brit. Empire, (317) \$36.

Cro. Col. Ceylon, Transjordan (264) \$30

CORONATION 1937 (202) \$10.50; used \$11.50

" 1937 Dominions (67) \$5.50

PEACE & VICTORY, 1946 (164) \$5.50

Q. E. CORONATION, 1953 (106) \$12.75; used \$15.

G. B. OLYMPIC GAMES, 1948 (24) \$2.65

W. INDIES UNIVERSITY, 1951 (28) \$2.15

Q. E. ROYAL TOUR, 1953 (13) \$1.35; used \$1.65

U. SOUTH AFRICA VISIT, 1947 (26) \$1

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MALTA, 98-114a both £1 \$25; 184-7 \$1.10

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N. BORNEO 193-207 \$17.50; 208-22 \$8. used \$9

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ST. KITTS 37-51 \$10; 52-64 \$125; 64 \$75.

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N. Rhodesia 16 \$5.50 17 \$11; S. Leone 88 \$30 164 \$18 165 \$57.50; Straits S. 252 \$5; 270 \$7; Transjordan 198 \$42.50

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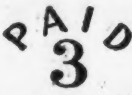
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The Paid Markings on the 3c U. S. Stamp of 1861

George W. Linn
CHAPTER TEN
PAID 3 IN ARC - TYPE I



PAID 3 IN ARC - TYPE I

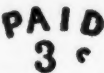
Thus far I have seen but two different of this type, and so far as I know at present there are no other varieties of it in the period we are considering, so that any detailed description is unnecessary.

Let us say therefore that in the Type I of the PAID 3 IN ARC the word PAID is of Gothic letters and is arranged in an arc above the figure 3. The letters and the figure 3 in Type I are fully twice as large as in Type II. Known in black and in blue.

KNOWN TOWNS OF USE.

- Type I:—LAPORTE, INDIANA. (Blue).**
HARDINSBURGH, KENTUCKY. (Black).
SOUTH BERWICK, MAINE. (Black).
CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS. (Black)
QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS. (Black).
PERU, NEW YORK. (Black).
BELLEVILLE, OHIO. (Black).

PAID 3 IN ARC - TYPE II



PAID 3 IN ARC - TYPE II

Little need be said of this Type II as it is very much like Type I but of much smaller size.

While Type I has thus far been quite plentiful, Type II has been as scarce as the rarest of these PAIDS. Thus far I have seen but the one copy from which our illustration is made and that off cover, so no town of use is known. Known in black only.

KNOWN TOWNS OF USE.

Type II:—None.

I am uncertain whether the little mark that looks like a "c" after the figure 3 belongs as part of the handstamp or whether it is merely a smear from it. Later finds of this same one should clarify this point.

This series of articles will be revised and printed in book form as soon after completion as possible. The author solicits help from anyone who can add to the listings herein. Only material that is submitted for examination and illustration can be accepted. All material will be returned safely to the owners. Address them to George W. Linn, Hovey-in-the-Hills, Fla.

SPECIALTY (Continued from page 10)

ed in a Kalamazoo paper mill and sold by employees to a local dealer. He sent 457 of them to a Dallas, Texas dealer to settle an account. The Dallas dealer called attention to the situation by writing the Auditor General of Michigan and 1,235 of the stamps were recovered".

The earliest known U. S. Perfin on cover is dated 1908; the year that official authorization was given. Remembering that the 1902 series was still prominently used as late as 1910, it is not unusual to find these early stamps perfin in quantity.

Stamps of still earlier issues, off cover, are known to have been punctured - but this is not an indication as to the date they were "personalized". Regulations do not specify that only particular issues can be so identified; for example, mint copies of the 1861 era could still be legally perforated today.

The advent of the postage meter has resulted in a decrease in the quantities of Perfins produced in the last few years. This has bothered the perforator machine manufacturers very little since it is assumed that similar devices will always be used to cancel checks, revenues, etc. The usage of both meters and Perfins by several large companies is frequently noticed.

Many business houses use the meters in the larger offices while the use of Perfins continues in the smaller ones. Railroads, for example, having hundreds of agents throughout the country, could not justify the cost of renting a meter for such limited use. Many universities will continue to utilize perforating machines because their postage stamp requirements vary from time to time.

In the past two years at least two railroads have purchased new perforating equipment. Noteworthy also; the Pennsylvania Railroad perforated \$284,207 worth of postage adhesives during 1952. Similarly it must be remembered that a properly cared for machine will operate for many years.

Several of those purchased shortly after Perfins were authorized are still functioning. So it will also be with Perfin collecting - it will be functioning for a long long time. The "hole" history of Perfins will probably never be completely written.

MONEY SAVING (Continued from page 1)

sults of simplification studies made by the Department. At the same time, he announced that the diversion of mail out of the present registered service would enable the Department to give greater security protection to letters carrying items of real financial value.

The certified mail service would be used for first-class mail for which no indemnity value is claimed. The 15c charge would be in addition to regular first-class or airmail postage. Special delivery would also be available for the customary extra charge.

The proposed 15c charge does not include the cost of obtaining a return receipt. As in the case of registered mail, a receipt would be received by the carrier and retained on file by the post office. An additional charge of 7c would be made for delivery of a return receipt to the sender. If the public would prefer to get a return receipt automatically on each piece of mail, this would, of course, require that a somewhat higher fee be charged.



This project is under the direction of Norman R. Abrams, Assistant PMG in charge of the Bureau of Post Office Operations. Comments should be addressed to him in care of the Post Office Department, Washington 25, D. C.

"Even under the present fee schedule, the Post Office Department incurs a deficit in the handling of registered mail," Mr.

Abrams explained. "We therefore explored means for reducing that deficit. A study undertaken showed that the deficit on this operation could be reduced, in the overall, by eliminating the security handling precautions from mail for which no indemnity was claimed. This mail would be carried in regular mail channels. We believe that all the public would desire for mail not having indemnity value is merely proof of delivery."

The new service would work as follows: A certified mail coupon would be available at any post office counter. The patron would fill in the name of the addressee on the stub of the coupon. If the sender wishes a certificate of mailing, he would take the coupon to a post office window clerk who would stamp his postmark on the coupon, detach a gummed label entitled "certified mail" and with a serial number on it, and paste it on the envelope. The patron would retain the stub carrying the same serial number for purposes of future identification.

The letter would then go through regular mail channels until it is delivered by the letter carrier. At that time, just as in the case of insured parcel post, the letter carrier would obtain a receipt for the letter. If there is no one home to receive the letter, it would be returned to the post office and a notice left just as in the case of ordinary insured mail.

If the patron pays 7c additional for a return receipt, one would be sent to him. Otherwise, the letter carrier's receipt would be kept on file at the post office of delivery for a period of six months after which it would be destroyed. At the time of mailing, if the patron does not desire a certificate of mailing, he would detach the gummed label himself, paste it on the envelope and drop it in any mail box. The service would be identical otherwise in all respects except that he would not have to go to the post office to have his mailing stub postmarked to show that the letter was actually mailed.

Although a special stamp is provided, ordinary stamps would be accepted in payment of the necessary postage. In addition, commercial mailers would be permitted to use metered postage.

The special stamp is in a 15c denomination and arrangements will be made to have a first day sale for the benefit of stamp collectors. Full details regarding the date and place of the first day sale will be announced later.

MSB Operators Plan Several Buying Trips

Word has been received from Mint Sheet Brokerage of Rossmore, Ohio, that Warren Scholl has just completed this firm's first buying trip of the year. The MSB itinerary included stops from Pittsburgh, Pa., as far East as Newark, N. J., with a short side trip into central Connecticut. In addition to buying several sizeable U. S. accumulations and sheet collections MSB also will be handling the sale of an important U. S. and general collection cataloging in excess of \$80,000.00. This material will be offered for sale through the company's Brokerage Bulletin beginning in the near future.

During 1955 there will be several more buying trips to be made by partners Lee Chadwick and Warren Scholl. Plans already are underway for another eastern trip to include Washington, D. C., Maryland, West Virginia and vicinity during late February or early March. Further ads in this paper will be made announcing routes for trips planned throughout the balance of the year.

Wabash Valley Has Exhibition Cachet

On April 23 and 24 the Wabash Valley Stamp Club will stage an exhibition and bourse in the Terre Haute House, Terre Haute, Ind. Displays will be the property of collectors in the immediate area.

To note the event the club has prepared a two-color cachet which

sells at 10c each. Send payments, and names and addresses to be affixed to Mrs. Rex Johnson, Box 154, North Terre Haute, Ind.

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UNITED STATES 19TH & 20TH CENTURY
An Approval

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MARCH 15, 1955

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- 300 Lots of sheets, many rare items included. They should be purchased for investment.
- 100 Wholesale lots of sheets excellent for speculation.
- 500 Wholesale lots of stamps for the dealer and the speculator. It will replenish the stock of both.

HOBBS STAMP CO.
38 Park Row New York 38, N. Y.

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231	.50	289
232	1.30	290
233	1.85	294
234	1.95	295
235	2.35	296
236	1.50	297
237	3.75	298
238	5.50	299
239	.75	323
240	.40	324
241	3.50	325

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SEND 100 TO 500 LARGE U. S. COMMEMORATIVES. Receive \$1.00 to \$5.00 Catalog value respectively in all different British Colonial cataloging 10c each. Copland, 1033 Baxter, Louisville, Kentucky. (77)

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DUPLICATES AND MIXTURES EXCHANGED. Send 1c for each 10 stamps and stamped self-addressed envelope. Erce Trading Service, P. O. Box 612, Latham, New York. (79)

EXCHANGE BETTER GRADE UNITED States, foreign, British Colonies, Airmails. No fee. Send up to \$100.00 catalog value, stamps cataloging 10c to \$15.00. Receive same amount. Louis, 1811 Gunderson, Berwyn, Ill. (74)

SEND 100 LARGE MIXED U. S. AND 10c. Receive 100 different French Colonies. Jacob Moore, 603 So. Rampart, Los Angeles 57, California. (73)

BARTER BRITISH THROUGH ESTABLISHED exchange. Crown, 142 Willowwood, Wantage, New York. (80)

SEND 200 DIFFERENT FOREIGN STAMPS and 10c and receive 200 all different. ("Bill") Berger, 46 W. Dominion Div. 2, Columbus 14, Ohio. (80)

HELLO! FOR 25 MINT U. S. COMMEMORATIVES I give 100 different stamps in good condition of my duplicates. A Norberg, Soderby-Karl, Sweden. (73)

WILL GIVE \$3.50 CAT. FOREIGN (5c and 10c) for 100 large U. S. Commems. Send to Joseph L. Devaney, 7 Willie St., Lowell, Mass. (73)

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SEND ANY AMOUNT GOOD CLEAN U. S. Commemorative used stamps, will send you half as many good clean foreign stamps all different. Send stamped addressed envelope, no cash. Stamps, 127 W. 6th Ave., Escondido, Calif. (74)

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SEND 100 MIXED LARGE U. S. Commems. and receive 30 different British Colonials, Stamps, 5318 Callister Sacramento, California. (74)

EXCHANGE

EXCHANGE BETTER GRADE BRITISH Empire cataloging 10c and up. Approval basis. Scott or Gibbons valuation. No Indian States. Ralph G. Clark, Rockaway, New York. (75)

STAMP EXCHANGE WANTED ALL COUNTRIES. Sven Carlsson, Flinrtor, Nykoping, Sweden. (74)

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THE P. & P. EXCHANGE OFFERS ONLY quality material, nothing under Twenty-five cents catalogue value. 8% Fee. References are necessary. Write for further details, 465 Weyant Ave., Columbus 13, Ohio. (74)

SEND \$5.00 1955 SCOTT CATALOG VALUE all different, 4c and up each, with 5c coin. Receive similar lot. Van Arsdale, Box 497, Myrtle Creek, Oregon. (82)

SEND 25-75 DIFF. CATALOG 5c-25c (Catalogued) plus dime for equal quality and quantity different of mine. Ted Melillo, 22 Tulip St., New Britain, Conn. (75)

U. S. WITH PERFORATED INITIALS in quantity, will give used Commems. or foreign. Ronald Tiedemann, 87-33 86th St., Woodhaven 21, N. Y. (75)

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NEXT 10 CACHED 3c COMMEM. F.D. covers \$1.00. Frank Herget, Buffalo 15, New York. (74)

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FOREIGN F.D. COVERS, REQUEST A SELECTION on approval of these beautiful covers today. Postage paid both ways. Sam S. Beck, 3300 Horton, Ferndale, Mich. (74)

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In case you are collecting plugs for adv. promotion, etc., here is a true one.

My recent 35 word classified in Linn's pulled 19 replies @ \$2.00 each, \$38.00 from a \$2.10 ad."

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SINGLES GERMANY AND COLONIES 19th century 80% discount from Scott, 20th century 75% discount. Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands 19th century 75%, 20th century 50% discount. Also have complete sets at low prices. Request price list. Alyse, 83 Weidner Ave., Ocean-side, New York. (74)</

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cous sample 25c. wide variety 25c. 100
surplus pictorials including mints, sets \$1.
This Star's Novelty, Missouri.

LUCKY MIXTURE 13c. CARL WEBB, JR.,
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free lists. References. Mar-
tin Eide, Amherst, Minnesota. (tf)

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Price List & Details free, no de-
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Mass. (tf)

ATTRACTIVE ONE DOLLAR BARGAINS.
Quality packets: 100 Large Commemora-
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Chile; 100 Chile; 100 Colombia; 100
Cuba; 100 Ecuador; 100 Guatemala; 100
Mexico; 100 Paraguay; 100 Peru; 300
Latin America. Reprint included U. S.
postage. Air Mail. Stamp. Paracama 1130.
New York City 10. (tf)

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Minnissian, Box 149, New York 33. (77)

CLOSEOUT DIME PACKETS: 24 ALL
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Bel Blvd., Bayside, 64. (78)

10 AND 30 CENT PACKETS USED AND
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10 Kenya & Uganda, 25 British Colonies.
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Greece 90c; 50 Hong Kong \$1.60; 200
Lebanon \$1.00; 200 Luxembourg \$2.50; 100
Lithuania \$1.20; 100 Montenegro \$2.00;
200 Portugal \$1.00; 200 Spain 75c; 100
Syria \$1.20; 200 Turkey 90c; 100 Vatican
\$1.75; 1000 British Empire \$5.25 and
1000 French Colonies \$5.25. Charles
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Gianelli, P. Florastras, Zurich, Swit-
zerland. (78)

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CRANE LIST #54 MARKET GUIDE MINT
plate blocks priced by positions shows
83 new low prices since previous edi-
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(tf)

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VF means very fine to exceptionally superb condition. F means fine and above average condition and fairly good centering. VG means very good insofar as average condition is concerned. NH means never hinged and gum is undisturbed. *—Means Mint; ○—Means Used.

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72	Excellent Margins San.	100.00
73	Chile 186-97 Very Fine	6.73
74	C6-6D, C7 VF	6.60
75	C9-11, C13	3.95
76	C15-29 2 Sets VF	5.13
77	C30-50 Very Fine	10.13
78	C54-68 Very Fine	7.36
79	C92-107B Very Fine	4.00
80	Colombia 448-50, 492 VF	3.85
81	C40-50 Very Fine	3.50
82	C42 Very Fine	3.00
83	Costa Rica 147, C1-10 VF	6.85
84	C15-27 Very Fine	21.35
85	C31-8 VF Sets	4.41
86	C31-8 VF	4.15
87	C92-7 Very Fine	6.05
88	C104-116 Very Fine	23.35
89	C128-40 Very Fine	7.28
90	C141-4 Very Fine	7.25
91	Cuba C4-16 VF	10.35
92	C18-32 VF	27.85
93	C18-8 VF	44.00
94	C89-12 VF	12.00
95	C813-20 VF	7.65
96	C821-36 VF	12.30
97	Cyrenaica C81-10 VF	16.30
98	C18-9 VF	2.75
99	Czechoslovakia 175-8 VF	4.15
100	165-7 Fine	8.00
101	C10-8, C23-7 VF sets	6.40
102	Danish 211-5 Very Fine	5.30
103	B6-8 in Blocks VF	14.00
104	B15-9, B23-7 VF	9.85
105	C31-5 VF	15.00
106	Denmark C1-5 VF	18.00
107	Dominican Rep. 351-5 VF	5.36
108	C1-5, C5 Slight thin VF	9.75
109	C7, C14 VF	6.50
110	C16-7 Very Fine	11.00
111	C18-23 Complete Sets VF	19.50
112	C39-9, C46-8 Sets VF	6.40
113	C49-56 Sets VF	3.35
114	C80-6 Face \$2.13 VF	4.48
115	C02 Very Fine	10.00
116	Dutch Indies 268-78 VF	10.00
117	277-3 VF	7.00
118	B12-19 Sets VF	7.60
119	B49-51 Very Fine	8.00
120	B32-6, B52-6 Very Fine	8.05
121	C11-2, C17 Sets VF	5.00
122	C14-6 Very Fine	19.50
123	Ecuador 453-31, 465-70 VF	5.84
124	C19-24 Very Fine	7.50
125	C25-32 Sets VF	3.91
126	C40-65 Sets Very Fine	8.43
127	C68-71, C77-88 Sets VF	8.15
128	C89-93 Very Fine	7.90
129	C94-8 Very Fine	3.80

Lot #	Cat. #	Cat. Val.
132	Same ovpt. Mendez Hospital San.	7.00
133	C99-106 Sets VF	7.95
134	C13-3 Sets VF	11.73
135	C131-49 Sets VF	7.90
136	C151-62 VF Sets	5.80
137	C168-72 Blocks NH VF	9.40
138	Egypt 172-8 Very Fine	17.50
139	B3 VF NH	14.05
140	C1-4 VF	22.00
141	C39-50 VF	4.95
142	Eritrea C7-16 Very Fine	11.20
143	C81-10 Very Fine	11.30
144	Estonia C9-15 Sets VF	5.90
145	Ethiopia 155-64 F-VG	5.25
146	C1-10 Violet-1st F	4.15
147	C11-7 VF	8.90
148	C21-2 VF NH	12.00
149	France 329 Sheet NH	5.50
150	C1-2 Fine	14.00
151	C16-7 VF	8.75
152	C22 VF	6.00
153	C22 Used	5.00
154	Fr. Morocco 269 VF	20.00
155	149-75 VF	4.50
156	B13-20, C22-3 VF	7.20
157	C1-11 VF	11.00
158	C12-38 Sets VF	12.60
159	C81-10 VF	7.50
160	C1-4 VF	5.77
161	C21-3 VF	7.00
162	J1-5 VF	27.70
163	Fr. Equit. Afr. 1-10 VF	5.09
164	11-26 VF Fine set	17.78
165	C1-4 VF	4.20
166	B12-21 VF	15.00
167	B22-35 VF	19.50
168	C21-2 VF	3.50
169	C81 VF	5.00
170	C82 VF	30.00
171	Fr. Guinea B4-8 Very Fine	4.50
172	C81 VF	5.00
173	Fr. Guinea 33-47 VF	22.05
174	63-104 VF	9.85
175	116-9 VF	4.50
176	13-7 VF	4.20
177	Fr. India 80-99 VF	5.34
178	115 VF	8.00
179	185-6 VF	10.50
180	189-90 VF	6.00
181	191-209 VF	6.00
182	Fr. Oceania 72-5 VF	4.60
183	80-116 VF	6.20
184	126-35 VF	15.55
185	C81 VF	6.00
186	Fr. West Africa C11-4 VF	3.60
187	Gabon 124-47 VF	23.35
188	Germany B49-57 Slight Thin	18.45
189	C27-34 VF	5.50
190	C38-9 Used VF	20.00
191	Greece C22-30 VF	7.95
192	92-18, N227-31, N241-3	23.08
193	Guadeloupe 96-137 VF	8.51
194	138-41 VF	4.00
195	C10-2 VF	3.60
196	Guatemala 190G VF	6.00
197	C17-9 VF	9.00
198	C26-8 VF	4.00
199	C39, C41 VF	7.50
200	C64 VF	10.00
201	C70-77 VF	17.77
202	C99, C92, C07 Sheet	5.50
203	C132-34A Sets VF	4.85
204	C171-6 VF NH	3.56
205	C151-6 VF NH	12.88
206	Hal. East Africa 1-20 VF	15.25
207	C19-21 P. & I. Sheets	8.00
208	Same used	8.00
209	C49-51 in Blocks of 4	9.00
210	Honduras C37-40 VF	3.85
211	C59 VF	4.00
212	121-23 VF	10.30
213	C155-62 VF	4.65
214	C198-205 Face 4.20 VF	8.50
215	C09-16 Face 4.30 VF	8.58
216	Hungary C24-5 VF	8.07
217	118 C2-5 used VF	8.00
218	C26-34 VF	6.65
219	C35-44 VF	6.65
220	C45-52, C71-9 2 Sets VF	6.25
221	C123-7 VF	Est. Val. 5.00
222	C11-20 Imperf	Est. 6.50
223	Roosvelt 4 A. Sheets	Est. 10.00
224	Intl 17-27 Imperf Pairs	Est. 8.00
225	Indochina 14-6, 19 VG OG	6.50
226	34-6, 38 VF OG	7.25
227	58 VF OG	5.00
228	129-29 VF OG	9.50
229	B15-9 VF	5.50
230	C1-17 (20 Val.) VF	6.07
231	Ionian Islands N27-11 VG NH	18.50
232	Italian Colonies C1-7 VF	5.98
233	C7 in Blocks of 4	18.00
234	Ital. East Africa 1-20, El-2	6.38
235	C1-11 Very Fine	6.38
236	Ital. Somaliland C7-16 VF	8.25
237	C81-10 VF	12.60
238	Italy 115-8 used Very Fine	10.10
239	A-D complete VF	30.25
240	C42-7 Very Fine	3.35
241	C48-9 Very Fine	5.50
242	Aegean Islands 1930, C1-3, C8-14	7.27
243	C1-3 in Blocks of 4 NH	8.60
244	C13 in Blocks of 4 NH	7.20
245	C15-9 Very Fine	5.75
246	C20-5 Very Fine	12.00
247	C26-7 Very Fine	7.00
248	C21-2 Very Fine	5.50
249	Rhodes 45-54 Very Fine	24.66
250	Rhodes 45-54 Very Fine	21.55
251	53-62 Very Fine	13.10
252	77-82 Very Fine	5.43
253	116-30 Very Fine	5.95
254	C7-16 Very Fine	4.31
255	359-62 Blocks of 4 NH	6.80
256	Lebanon C1-4 Very Fine	6.00
257	C9-20 sets VF	7.70
258	C21-5 Sets VF	9.00
259	C81-10 Very Fine	30.25
260	C57-69 Sets VF	6.95
261	C79 Blocks of 4	4.00
262	C82-7 Very Fine	8.00
263	C97-106 Sets VF	7.05
264	C107-118 Sets VF	7.60
265	C118-28 Very Fine	8.21
266	C81-5 Very Fine	8.25
267	Liberia 280-2, C14-6, C81-3	12.55
268	CEL, C81, Very Fine	6.00
269	C14-6 Blocks of 4 VF	14.00
270	CEL Block of 4 VF	14.00
271	C21 Block of 4 VF	8.00
272	C51 Roosevelt Block of 4	Est. 4.75
273	330-1, C67 UPU sheet on Cover	Est. 4.75
274	332-7, C68-9 Ashmun Sheet VF	Est. 6.75
275	C71-6 VF NH Face \$2.92	5.84
276	C1-6 Blocks of 4 NH	23.36
277	340A, C70A Sheets Perf. & Imp. Est.	5.50
278	\$5.00 UNICEF of 1954 large oversize stamp Airmail Scarce	Est. 30.00
279	Same in miniature sheet of 4 Est.	120.00
280	Libia C14-8 VF	19.10
281	C19-24 VF	6.65
282	Liechtenstein 1-3 VF	5.10
283	32-9 Very Fine	21.25
284	111-3 Very Fine	5.50
285	116-29 Very Fine	7.40

Lot #	Cat. #	Cat. Val.
286	136-50 Very Fine	6.30
287	154 Very Fine NH	4.00
288	158-9 Very Fine NH	4.50
289	166-70 189-99 sets VF	6.95
290	212-7 sets Very Fine	7.90
291	218 Very Fine NH Face \$2.50	5.00
292	218A Sheet of 4 Face \$10.00	20.00
293	B7-10, B11-3 Sets VF	9.95
294	C7-8 Very Fine	18.00
295	C9-14, C17-23 Sets VF	10.80
296	J13-28 Sets Very Fine	3.78
297	C01-20 Very Fine	4.05
298	Lithuania C8-20 Sets VF	12.00
299	C21-21 Very Fine	7.00
300	C32-5, C37-52 Sets VF	8.75
301	C81-4 Very Fine	7.00
302	Luxembourg 132A Sheet	15.00
303	132A Sheet	4.65
304	206-52 Very Fine	10.50
305	217, B126, B131-2 Sheets	9.50
306	B35-44 Sets Very Fine	7.85
307	B45-9 Very Fine	5.10
308	B50-4 Very Fine	10.00
309	B50-5 Very Fine	55.80
310	B65 A-Q Intellectuals VF	6.40
311	Luxembourg B86-91 VF	9.75
312	B73-8, B98-103 sets VF	20.50
313	C7-15 Face \$2.15 VF	5.00
314	C8-7 Imperf VF	12.85
315	Mexico 801-4 Very Fine	6.45
316	820-4 Retail \$2.60 VF	4.72
317	C47-8 Very Fine	13.55
318	C153-7 Very Fine	12.50
319	C163-6 VF Retail \$3.50	6.00
320	C178-9 VF Retail \$6.50	9.00